

THE NONCONFORMIST.

"The dissidence of dissent and the protestantism of the protestant religion."

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ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS.

THE DISAPPOINTMENTS OF ECCLESIASTICAL ZEAL.

"EVERY dog has his day." The brightest seasons of prosperity may sometimes be overclouded. Uninterrupted success is not the lot of mortals—nor of ecclesiastics, who assume to be something between mortals and immortals. Our state-church has been unusually brisk of late. She seems to have remembered the days of her youth, and the remembrance made her gladsome. New life coursed through her old and somewhat shriveled veins. A spark of her pristine fire glanced in her eyes. She talked of her beauty and her powers—much as she used to do in the cherished times of Laud and Whitgift. Many persons, misled by her unusual vivacity, seriously began to imagine that her wrinkles were disappearing. She herself evidently thought a change for the better had taken place in her constitution; and in the strength of this conviction, and in the buoyancy of spirit which the conviction produced, she boldly ventured upon projects worthy of her best days. Her partial success stimulated her vanity, and she positively dreamed of achieving fresh conquests; hoping to subvert, not only morality, but ancient custom and law itself, with a view to carry out her own designs. The piety of the established church has a wonderful tendency to run into persecution, and her love to God usually shows itself in hostility to man. When she is most devotional, she is most arrogant; and her zeal is of that order which puffs up but does not edify.

In the plenitude of her faith and good works, she set herself to the preparation of a new whip for dissenters. Refractory vestries and obstinate church-rate recusants, for many years, had been to her a source of great disquietude. This, in the period of her depression, she reluctantly endured as best she could. The somewhat unlooked for revival of her strength and spirits led her to decide upon a vigorous effort to put down the intolerable evil. She has persevered with untiring energy, lured on by hopes of ultimate success. Alas! alas! her hopes have not been realised; and it is to be feared that vestries and recusants will be more troublesome than ever. Her first attempt was to vest churchwardens with the power of levying ecclesiastical taxation, without asking the consent of the parishioners. Herein her success was various. Her own courts favoured her novel demand. The Court of Queen's Bench, however, pronounced it to be absurd as well as illegal; whereupon she went to the Court of Exchequer, and although she obtained not what she sought, a hint was furnished her by the presiding judge, that she might possibly reach her ends by taking a different road. The hint was not lost upon her. With strange alacrity, she instantly carried it into effect, and simultaneously—at Braintree and Bradford—sought to establish the right of the minority, in vestry assembled, to tax the majority. And now she has sustained a double defeat—a defeat in her own court Christian, at the hands of Dr Lushington—and at the civil court at York, at the hands of Chief Justice Denman.

We are informed by the noble and learned lord who presides over the Queen's Bench that the ecclesiastical court is the proper place in which to seek a decision of this question, and that the decision of Dr Lushington must be regarded by the civil courts as law, until its legality has been reversed by a superior ecclesiastical court, or is regularly brought in question before the courts of law. Now, whatever may be the sneers of proctors, and doctors, and parties interested in maintaining church ascendancy, we take leave to remark of the Judge Advocate's judgment, that the luminous exposition of principles which it contains, the masterly mode in which it brushes aside strained and fanciful analogies, and the crushing weight which it brings to bear upon the thin and hollow pretences of precedent, will set the matter at rest. Obstinacy may protract for a brief period the pending struggle. Sir Herbert Jenner Fust may possibly reverse the decision of his subordinate; but the case, as stated by Dr Lushington, is obviously one which the civil courts, if they have any regard to their own dignity and impartiality, must ultimately confirm. All the old grounds of argument are now disposed of, and we are curious to see what new fetch can be invented to give a colour of plausibility to these unconstitutional assumptions of a state-church.

Aye! Unconstitutional in the widest, deepest, fullest sense of that term—subversive of every right guaranteed to us in civil matters by the law of the land—insulting to common sense, and destructive of all good feeling. The church would try the question of parochial zeal, just as they used to try men accused of witchcraft. In this latter case destruction was inevitable. If they sank and were drowned they were innocent; if they swam they were adjudged guilty, and put to death. The church's interpretation of the duty appertaining to a vestry is conceived in the same spirit of barbarous absurdity. Men are called together to determine whether they will tax themselves for the support of the establishment. If the majority say "Aye," they are taxed accordingly; if they say "No," they are

to be taxed by the minority. Now, it might occur to any mind but an ecclesiastical one, that if this be a correct interpretation of law, no reasonable account can be given of the origin of calling vestries at all. The formality is but a grave piece of masking and mummery, without reason, without use; the mere enactment of a pretence—a practical joke, having not even a particle of wit to recommend it—a deed very much like ecclesiastical deeds in general, possessing neither significance, morality, nor religion. If the church intend to burden us, at all events, she had far better do so without asking us to play the fool for her amusement. Men in this country have quite enough of serious business to attend to without taking part in formalities which mean nothing, or occupying themselves in gravely giving counsel at the request of the church, when that counsel is quite unnecessary, the course having been already determined before the advice was sought.

In civil affairs, Englishmen enjoy the theoretical privilege of taxing themselves. This is regarded as a main principle of our constitution, and however, for a time, in consequence of oblique proceedings, it may be practically set aside, the principle still remains, an ultimate standard of appeal against oppression and tyranny. How comes it that a church which only as an establishment, has power to tax the nation, and, as an establishment, is the mere creature of law, arrogates to itself the power of contradicting the spirit of that law by which it was created, and uprooting for its own advantage the primary maxims of that constitution about which it twines for support? The union of church and state pre-supposes an assimilation of one to the other, and assuredly the weaker vessel would do wisely to abstain from insisting upon claims which the stronger dare not openly enforce. By this time we hope she has found her mistake. She has displayed her grasping spirit without accomplishing her end. Nominally the matter is yet in abeyance; virtually the country may look upon it as decided. Right proud are we that in these days of almost universal degeneracy there are at Braintree and Bradford, at Leicester, Bungay, Chelmsford, and other places, a faithful few, in whom respect for the rights of our common manhood yet lives and glows. These men bear in their turn the ark of testimony, and history will yet record of them, that when on every hand dissenters, scared by the threats of ecclesiastical aristocracy, retreated from their principles before the advancing power of the church, there were some noble spirits "faithful among the faithless," who stood up against the encroachments of spiritual despotism, and achieved a conquest for themselves and for posterity.

INDECISION.

MOST of our readers may have read in their youthful days the interesting and instructive account of a certain animal noted for patience and for dullness, perishing of want between two bundles of hay. There was so much to be desired in each—so rich a hue, so tempting a flavour, and circumstances were so equally balanced in regard to the propriety of selecting each for his food, that choice was, alas! too long suspended, and as according to metaphysicians of the first order, the preponderating motive governs the will, so it was found as might have been expected, that in a case where the motives were exactly of the same weight, the will was neutralised, and the donkey died. Seldom do we discover in more important matters that wonderful indecision of which this fable is a type. Last Monday however, in the House of Lords, a perfect specimen of this kind was exhibited. Upon a motion for the second reading of the Affirmation bill—a bill which our readers must be aware proposes to substitute an affirmation for an oath in all cases of giving evidence, in which the parties "solemnly and sincerely declare that they believe in their conscience, that the taking of any oath is contrary to the law of God," the bishop of London rose and made the following characteristic speech:—

He hardly knew whether he could vote on the present question. It alluded to the scruples of individuals, which scruples, although he thought ill-founded, still he was much disposed to respect. The individuals who entertained those scruples were by no means few, and the inconveniences arising from these scruples were not imaginary, as the noble lord who had last addressed the House seemed to imagine. The question was one, therefore, requiring grave consideration. He much feared that the effect of the measure would be, if not immediately, ultimately to abrogate the necessity of taking oaths altogether. The House had in favour of the present measure, the deliberate opinion of the noble and learned lord, now at the head of the administration of justice in this country, but the House had not on the same subject the opinions of the other learned judges of the law, and he (the Bishop of London), was most anxious that the House should have the full advantage of all the learned judges' opinions. He, for his part, would admit that nothing but state necessity would justify the adoption of oaths. He thought the entire practice of the judicature of the country in that respect ought to be gravely reconsidered. The present measure went so far, and was so sweeping in its results, that he was not prepared, at the present moment, to vote for it, and he also felt unable to vote against it.

This is certainly as unique a specimen of ecclesiastical perplexity

as we have lately seen. On the one hand the kind-hearted and Christian bishop wishes to relieve the religious scruples of a large body of what he pleases to call "respectable men." This we shall designate motive A. On the other hand the pious officer of the church fears that the extension of indulgence in this respect, will "abrogate the necessity of taking oaths altogether." This we shall denominate motive B. It is quite plain that to the bishop's mind, A is equal to B, and B coincides with A. To extend indulgence to scrupulous consciences, is a good thing. To do away with the necessity of taking oaths is a bad thing of precisely the same amount; and the combined effect of one and the other upon a metropolitan bishop, is to hold him like Mahomet's coffin, suspended between earth and heaven. What possible motive the worthy high priest can have for keeping up the necessity of taking oaths is to us a matter of grave wonderment. We dare say, in the bishop's mind there is a perception of the mysterious tie which connects together the system of oaths, and the influence of the priesthood. The thing is not clear to our apprehension, but of a surety, that must be a high state of Christian enlightenment which regards as an evil to be dreaded, "the abrogation of the necessity of taking oaths altogether."

On Wednesday morning last, at a very early hour, the inhabitants of Chesham were thrown into great consternation by Mr Churchwarden Birdseye, and his deputy Humphrey, of Hemel Hempstead, who brought catalogues of a church rate sale, which was to take place on Tuesday, at Hemel Hempstead, the property of the Rev. E. Carey and others, having been seized for that unrighteous purpose. The printed bills announced that the unholy plunder would be sold by Mr Pope, of Chesham, although neither the churchwarden nor his deputy had had any previous communication with Mr Pope on the subject. It appears that these two worthies had been canvassing several towns in their own county for an auctioneer to sell their spoil; but, to the credit of Hertfordshire be it said, not an auctioneer could be found to do their dirty work for them, and Mr Pope at once peremptorily refused to have anything to do with the affair. The goods of eight recusant dissenters have been seized at Hemel Hempstead, and the churchwardens are so much at a loss for an auctioneer that they meditate advertising for one, and that failing, to undertake the office themselves.—*Aylesbury News*.

On Friday last, Lord Denman gave judgment in the case of the Queen v. the Chapelwardens of Haworth. After stating the facts of the case, he observed that as church-rates were, generally speaking, matter of ecclesiastical jurisdiction, the learned counsel who appeared to support the rule had pressed this court very much to direct the issuing of the writ, in order that the defendants, in proceeding to levy the rate, may lay the ground for bringing the whole question for discussion before the spiritual tribunals. The Court, however, could not feel justified in commanding an individual to do an act of which the legality was doubtful. Lord Chief Justice Tindal himself, in bringing forward, in his judgment, a point so entirely novel, very studiously avoided committing either himself or any of his learned brethren by the expression of any opinion upon the subject. Whenever, therefore, any occasion arose which called for a direct decision of the legality of a rate so made by the churchwardens and a minority of the parishioners in vestry assembled, it would be competent to each of the judges to exercise the utmost freedom of opinion and discussion upon the point. Of their freedom, the judges of this court could not deprive themselves, even if nothing had occurred since the judgment of the Exchequer chamber to alter the position of the question. An important event had, however, occurred since that period. The hint which had been thrown out in the Exchequer chamber was taken and acted upon, and the Spiritual court had decided solemnly, after a full discussion and consideration of the merits of a rate made in conformity to the suggestion of the Lord Chief Justice in the Exchequer chamber, that the rate was illegal. It was very probable, that the judgment so given would undergo a review before a higher tribunal; and it was of course also possible, that it might be reversed. In the mean time, however, the decision of the ecclesiastical tribunal was binding upon this court, as much as would be a judgment of a temporal court, prohibiting the parish officers from proceeding to enforce the rate. The rule called upon this court to command the defendants to act in direct opposition to the judgment so given. Such a rule could not be made absolute, and must, therefore, be discharged.

In the case of the Queen v. Foston, which was argued at the same time, and was placed in the discussion upon very nearly the same grounds, Lord Denman declared the judgment of the court to be, that the rule for the *mandamus* should be discharged.

The Dover church rate case was heard in the Arches court, on Monday last, before Sir H. Jenner Fust. It will be in the recollection of our readers, that Mr Palfrey, the defendant in this case, is an inhabitant of St. Mary's, Dover. A suit was prosecuted against him by the plaintiffs, the churchwardens of that parish, for the recovery of four church and two cemetery rates. Considerable litigation was incurred, in consequence of the manner in which church rates had been levied in the parish. When the cause came to a final hearing, the judge pronounced against the validity of the church rates, and condemned the churchwardens in the costs; but decided in favour of the cemetery rates, and assigned the defendant to pay the costs for contesting them. The proctors' bills have since been taxed, and Mr Palfrey objected to the registrar's report. He (Mr P.) gave in an act on petition, praying to be heard against it; the churchwardens gave in a rejoinder, and the cause came on this day for hearing. Mr Palfrey appeared in person, and alleged that while four rates out of six had been pronounced invalid, and the protracted litigation had arisen on the church rates, he having previously declared himself willing to pay the cemetery rates, he was called upon to pay £79 12s. 6d., while the taxed bill, as against the churchwardens, only amounted to £42 18s. 11d. He considered that that was a departure from the spirit and tenor of the decree which the court had made. He was satisfied with the judgment of the court, and was anxious that it should be fairly and fully carried out. Sir H. Jenner Fust, in giving judgment, said, that when he saw the sums which each party was respectively called upon to pay, he was himself astonished at the result. He had,

however, nothing before him but the report of the registrar, and as the proctors on each side were present when the bills were taxed, he was bound to assume that the registrar had done justice between the parties. He could therefore make no further order in the case. Mr Farquhar, the proctor for Mr Palfrey, stated that in the one case the bill was taxed as between party and party, and in the other as between proctor and client. The court considered that that explanation was satisfactory, and accounted for the apparent anomaly. He consequently dismissed the petition.

On the same day the case of Butt v. Fellowes was advanced a stage. This was a responsive allegation in a suit for subtraction of church rate, brought by the churchwarden of the parish of Sandy Acre, in the county of Derby, against a rate-payer. The rate is opposed on the grounds that the churchwarden was not duly elected, that the notice of vestry was insufficient, and that the whole proceedings were irregular. These objections were explained or answered in the present allegation, which, after an opposition by Dr Addams, and a defence by Dr Harding and Dr Haggard, was admitted by the court.

On the same day the case of Piggott, of Romford, had a hearing. Mr Piggott read from a written paper some observations in opposition to the admissibility of the allegation; but the court thought these altogether irrelevant, and admitted the paper.

On the same day Sir H. J. Fust pronounced sentence on Mr Langley, for brawling in the parish church. After detailing the proceedings and the substance of the articles, and remarking that they imputed to the defendant a very grave and serious offence, and which, if proved, would render him amenable to the sentence of the law, the learned judge proceeded to examine the evidence taken upon the articles, the defendant not having offered a plea that was admissible. He considered that the witnesses had fully established the substance of the articles, although their testimony had not gone to the extent of proving all the words alleged to have been used by the defendant, and in particular the articles had omitted to state that the defendant had solicited the prayers of the congregation on account of his supposed persecutions. The defence of Mr Langley, set up in the interrogatories and in his address to the court (which had occupied more than fifteen hours, and which was entirely irrelevant), was, that he had been the object of a conspiracy in the parish; but he had brought out or alleged nothing in excuse or even extenuation of his offence, the act, according to his own showing, having been, not sudden, but deliberate. By the mode in which he had conducted his defence, casting reflections upon persons of respectability, by name, and particularly upon the Bishop of Oxford, who would have neglected the duties of his high station if he had passed over the occurrence, the defendant had aggravated his original offence. Had Mr Langley attended to the intimation he had received from the court on the admission of the articles, and given an affirmative issue to the articles, he would have saved much expense, and might have experienced some leniency from the court. But he had chosen to attempt to justify himself, and the only question was the amount of punishment to be affixed to an offence which had been properly described as one of the worst cases of chiding and brawling ever brought to the notice of this court. The proceedings had been brought under the Act 5 and 6 Edw. VI., (as well as under the general ecclesiastical law,) which prescribed suspension for a period at the discretion of the court, and he should sentence Mr Langley to suspension from his office for eight calendar months, from the time this sentence was published and ratified in the parish of Wheatley; he admonished him to refrain from such improper conduct in future, and he condemned him in the costs. The court had been urged to require a certificate of good conduct; but he could find no precedent for this as part of a sentence against a minister for brawling, and he did not see clearly how it could form part of his sentence. Mr Langley inquired where he was to reside. The court informed him that it had suspended him from office only.

Statement showing the mode in which the revenues of the church, amounting to £9,459,565, are divided among the different orders of clergy.—(From the *Mirror of Corruption*.)

	Average income of each individual.	Total incomes.
2 Archbishops	£26,465	£52,930
24 Bishops	10,174	244,185
DIGNITARIES, &c.		
28 Deans	1580	44,250
61 Archdeacons	739	45,126
26 Chancellors	494	12,844
514 Prebendaries and Canons	545	280,130
330 Precentors, Succentors, Vicars-general, Minor Canons, Priest-vicars, Vicars-choral, and other Members of Cathedral and Collegiate Churches	338	111,650
PAROCHIAL CLERGY.		
2886 Aristocratic Pluralists, mostly non-resident, and holding two, three, four, or more livings, in all 7637 livings, averaging each, tithes, glebes, church fees, &c., £764	1863	5,379,430
4305 Incumbents, holding one living each, and about one-half resident on their benefices	764	3,289,020
4254 Curates, licensed and unlicensed, whose average stipends of about £75 per annum, amounting together to £319,050, are included in the incomes of the pluralists and other incumbents.		
Total		£9,459,565

On Thursday there was presented to the House of Commons, a petition thus described in its votes:—"Blasphemy—Petition of Charles Bradley, for a law declaring it blasphemy in any one who shall teach anything contrary to sound doctrine." Who is Charles Bradley? And, oh! tell us what is "sound doctrine?" Rome says she is infallible, and has it. The Protestant denounces the Romanist as an idolater, and thrusting an Act of Parliament in your face, vows his is the

"sound" doctrine. Scotland kicks off Episcopacy, and proclaims it to be there. The Unitarians, towering above them all, proclaim, "I have found it, I have found it!" Do not let it be supposed that we treat the glorious truths of Christianity with the remotest irreverence; but while we cherish and hold fast by the sacred volume, we trust it may not yet be blasphemy to smile at Charles Bradley's prayer for another page of ridiculous legislation.—*Morning Advertiser*.

A very crowded meeting was held in the City hall, Glasgow, on the evening of Tuesday last, for the purpose of taking into consideration the recent treatment of Mr Brewster, by the General Assembly. Mr Henry Birkmyre occupied the chair upon the occasion. Several eloquent addresses were delivered in praise of the consistent conduct of Mr Brewster, and in favour of his being supported in his present position. A resolution expressive of the astonishment and indignation with which the meeting had heard of the cruel and vindictive proceedings of the General Assembly—which they regarded as a deep design to ruin Mr Brewster for his uncompromising advocacy of the rights of the people was proposed, and unanimously agreed to. Similar meetings have been held in Arbroath, Cupar, Angus, and Hawick. The particulars of Mr Brewster's case we gave in our last number. He has refused to give up the condemned sermons.

A public meeting was held at Hawick, in the town hall on Monday last to consider the case of the Rev. Patrick Brewster. The meeting was one of the largest held here for a long time, and the proceedings were conducted in a highly creditable manner. Resolutions strongly condemnatory of the proceedings of the Paisley Presbytery and the General Assembly, and expressing sympathy with Mr Brewster, were passed unanimously. The church of Scotland has struggled hard to obtain the support of the people in her present awkward position, but as yet without success; nor will the proceedings against Brewster tend to narrow the breach.

CORRESPONDENCE.

REVEREND TITLES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR—Possibly the difficulty which seems to stare your worthy and inquisitive correspondent in the face, together with the very ground itself whereon it stands, might be finally and for ever removed by simply employing the extract from the scriptures entire, especially after what we therein read about the (perilous) consequences of "taking away therefrom:" so that, instead of "Reverend" alone, the title would henceforward be "Holy and Reverend" (occurring as it does but once in the whole of sacred writ) John or Thomas so and so, as the case may be.

The remedy in this, as in a vast many other instances of abuse, lies solely in the hands of the people: if they had but the good sense, or the resolution invariably so to use it—no longer suffering themselves to be led by the nose, as it were, at the will, and to subserve the interest or the pride of a few, who in respect of true knowledge, to say nothing of honesty, rise scarce above the level of mere children.

I am yours, respectfully,

JAMES HUMPHRYS.

Wandswoth road, June 18, 1842.

IMPERIAL PARLIAMENT.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

PETITIONS FOR THE WEEK.

Ballot, for, 5.	Maynooth college, for inquiry, 9.
Church patronage (Scotland), for abolition of, 1.	Mines and Collieries bill, against, 24.
Education (Ireland), for alteration of present system, 10.	for, 54.
Factories, for limiting hours of labour, 4.	of females, 2.
	Poor Law Amendment bill, against, 37.

PUBLIC BUSINESS TRANSACTED.

BILLS READ A SECOND TIME.

1. Municipal Corporations (Ireland) bill.	3. District Courts bill.
2. Stock in Trade bill.	

CONSIDERED IN COMMITTEE.

1. Customs bill.	4. Municipal Corporations (Ireland) bill.
2. Designs Copyright bill.	5. Excise act.
3. Mines and Collieries bill.	6. New South Wales bill.

BILLS READ A THIRD TIME, AND PASSED.

1. Railways bill.	2. Drainage (Ireland) bill.
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MOTIONS.

Affghanistan—Motion made and question proposed, "That there be laid before this House, copies of the correspondence of Sir Alexander Burnes with the Governor-general of India, during his mission to Cabool, in the years 1837 and 1838; also, copies of the correspondence of the Governor-general of India with the President of the Board of Control, and with the secret committee of the East India Company, from the 1st day of September, 1837, to the 1st day of October, 1839, relative to the expedition to Afghanistan."—(Mr H. J. Baillie.) The House divided; ayes 9, noes 75.

Poor Law Amendment bill—Order for committee read; motion made and question proposed, "That it be an instruction to the Committee, that they have power to divide the bill into two bills."—(Mr Lawson:)—motion, by leave, withdrawn. Motion made and question proposed, "That Mr Speaker do now leave the chair:" amendment proposed to leave out from the word "That" to the end of the question, in order to add the words, "considering the distressed state of the commercial and industrious classes of this country, together with the advanced period of the session and the present state of public business, coupled with the fact that the Poor Law commission expires on the 31st day of the ensuing month, it is the opinion of this House that there is not now sufficient time to enable parliament to give that attention and deliberation to the important changes in the law for the administration of relief to the poor, which the measure introduced by her Majesty's ministers imperatively demands; and that it would, therefore, be more expedient that measures of a temporary character should be adopted, to meet any inconvenience which the expiring provisions of existing laws for the relief of the poor may be deemed to require," instead thereof:—(Mr Thomas Duncombe:) question proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the question:" debate arising, motion made and question put, "That the debate be now adjourned:" the House divided: ayes 29, noes 297. Question again proposed, "That the words proposed to be left out stand part of the question:" whereupon motion made and question proposed, "That this House do now adjourn:" motion, by leave, withdrawn. Debate adjourned till Monday.

SUBSTANCE OF CONVERSATIONS.

ELECTION COMPROMISES.—On Monday evening Mr Roebuck brought up a special report from the election compromises committee, stating that Mr Walter, who had been summoned, refused to attend and give evidence. The main ground on which Mr Walter refused was, the expression used by Mr Roebuck during the last session of parliament, when, on his being attacked in the *Times*, he had recommended the horsewhipping of Mr Walter, its chief proprietor. The House ordered the attendance of Mr Walter, and then some conversation arose on the subject of the inquiry before the election compromises committee being conducted with closed doors. Mr Roebuck stated that the

committee had come to a unanimous resolution that the inquiry would be best conducted in that manner, though they did not dispute the right of any member of the House being present. The proceedings were ordered to be printed with the votes for the use of members only.

DEBATES.

Wednesday, June 22.

The House went into committee on the Mines and Collieries bill, when Lord ASHLEY called the attention of the House to two addresses—one from five hundred men assembled at Barnsley, expressing to the House their gratitude for the sympathy manifested in their behalf; the other from women employed in the pits, to the same effect. These persons stated that they would now have leisure to make their homes similar to the habitations of other families. These addresses could not be received, being incompatible with the usage of parliament. Clause 2 having been read, Lord ASHLEY proposed to substitute for it a clause to the following effect:—That no boy under ten years of age should be employed in the collieries; but that between that age and thirteen they should only be employed three days alternately in the week, and only for twelve hours a day, the period for commencing their labour being nine o'clock in the morning. Mr HUME suggested that on the three days when the boys would be unemployed, it should be made compulsory on them to go to school in the neighbourhood. After some conversation the clause was agreed to, as were the remaining clauses of the bill.

The report of the Sudbury Disfranchisement bill was brought up, whereupon Mr BLACKSTONE moved its recommitment, for the purpose of extending the franchise to the neighbouring hundred. The motion for the recommitment of the bill was, however, on a division, negatived by a majority of 48 to 19. The report was then received, and after some other unimportant business the House adjourned.

Thursday, June 23.

AFGHANISTAN.

Mr BAILLIE brought forward his motion respecting the expedition to Afghanistan. He thought the country was entitled to know whether the war had been commenced justly, and after due consultation of competent military authorities. He drew a picture of the disastrous nature of the proceedings up to the present time, and contended that the opinions of all the most eminent military authorities at home as well of the Commander-in-chief of the Indian army were opposed to the course taken, as not only unjust in itself, but as endangering the Indian empire. He denied the truth of the statements put forth by the Governor-general of India of the unpopularity of Dost Mahomed Khan, and quoted various extracts to prove the reverse. All writers united in describing him as being a most popular and just monarch; and greatly beloved by his subjects. He read passages from the Governor-general's manifesto, and commented upon them; describing the document as unsatisfactory and deceptive, and calculated to produce deep and lasting hatred towards this country on the part of the natives. He went at length into the cost of the war, which he said was already upwards of fifteen millions, and this for a country which did not yield an annual revenue of £300,000. He concluded by eulogising the course pursued by the present government.

He had now only to add, before he sat down, that with regard to the course her Majesty's present government were at the present time pursuing, he could entertain no doubt whatever of its perfect propriety. Great Britain was now placed in such a position that she had no other resource but to take those steps which were best calculated to vindicate the honour of the British name. On that point he was sure there would not be a dissentient voice, at least among those who thought, as he presumed all who heard him thought, that it was desirable to preserve the British empire in India.

Mr D'ISRAELI seconded the motion. He thought that as the expense of the war had been made one main argument for a new measure of taxation, the country was entitled to know the nature and origin of it. He contended that England had nothing to fear for the stability of its power in India, but from the difficulties which would arise from financial distress. He thought the commercial interests of this country were injured by the war in Afghanistan, which was one whose nature and origin were so involved in mystery that it was the duty of those who promoted it to state the reasons why it had been undertaken. He trusted that the policy which had guided the late Secretary for Foreign Affairs would not influence the present Prime Minister; if it did the days of England's influence with respect to foreign nations were numbered; and he went on to review the proceedings of Lord Palmerston, condemning them as an alternation of fatal inertness and terrible energy—he first neglected duties, and then violated rights, and all because he thought this country strong enough to extricate herself from any difficulty by a resort to force.

Sir J. HOBHOUSE vindicated the Governor-general from the accusations of Mr Baillie, and especially from the charge of attempting to deceive. He complained that no condemnation of the Indian policy of the late government had been pronounced in the house whilst they were in office, and whilst the events were in progress, although repeated opportunities occurred. He then entered upon a lengthened vindication of the course pursued by the late government. He denied that the disasters sustained by the British forces were irreparable; on the contrary, he had no doubt that ere this they were fully retrieved; at all events they did not affect the civil policy of England. He maintained that the fullest consideration had been given to every point before the war was undertaken, and competent authorities consulted. The real question for consideration was whether a hostile or friendly power should possess the north western part of our Indian empire.

The real question which Lord Auckland and the Cabinet at home had to consider was, whether the intermediate country between the confines of Persia and the Indus, or rather our own frontier, was to be in possession of a friendly power, or one manifestly hostile? That was the real question. If the region could have been perfectly neutral, remaining neither in the hands of friends nor enemies, why then no man would have thought of the expedition which Lord Auckland undertook. But the neutrality of that country could not be depended on. It must, and would be hereafter, substantially in the hands of a power either friendly to our Indian empire, or of one from which danger might be apprehended.

He then read extracts from correspondence with the government at home, and Lord Auckland and Sir Alexander Burnes, in order to show that the Governor-general of India had acted upon the best advice, and that the operations had been in accordance with the opinions and previous suggestions of Sir Alexander Burnes, whose long experience ought to have been considered unquestionable authority. The movement which the Indian government had thought it their duty to counteract had not proceeded from Persia alone; it derived great additional

importance from being abetted by Russia; and he stated the several circumstances indicative of Russian interference, which he regarded as having justified Lord Auckland in decisive measures. If Sir A. Burnes had expressed himself in favour of a different course, Lord Auckland would not have been bound to act on that opinion against all the other opinions furnished to him on the subject. The policy might be right or wrong; but, at all events, it was not to be said that Lord Auckland had neglected to consult or to follow the most competent advisers. Sir J. Honnour then read extracts from despatches of Lord Auckland to evince the justice of war, and, under the circumstance, its necessity. He controverted Mr D'Israeli's commercial statements, and referred to other documents showing a considerable increase of trade within the last commercial year. He disputed the calculations of Mr Baillie respecting the cost of the war, and showed that an improvement had taken place in the sources of revenue. He was satisfied that Lord Auckland's measure had produced a moral effect in Europe highly beneficial to this country; and he trusted that at no distant day he should have to join in a vote of thanks to some successful commander for the glorious termination of the present hostilities.

Lord JOCELYN and Mr HUTT supported the motion, which was opposed by Mr HOGG.

Sir ROBERT PEEL opposed the motion, on the ground that it would be inexpedient to produce the papers, inasmuch as Russia had positively disavowed all intention to disturb the British supremacy in India; that declaration had been accepted by Lord Palmerston as perfectly satisfactory; and the subsequent conduct of Russia had been in conformity with it. The same consideration would induce him to abstain from entering upon the discussion of the subject which those papers involved. He would, however, repeat what he had formerly said about the greatness of the deficit in the Indian revenue—a deficit of 2,500,000*l.*, which he regarded as a most serious consideration in reference to British finance. He would not pledge himself as to the extent to which the policy of Lord Auckland might be followed out under the present government, further than by expressing their resolution to vindicate the honour of the British arms, and maintain the security of the troops. The late disaster sustained in Afghanistan, great as it was, was by no means such as ought to induce them to entertain apprehensions as to their supremacy in India.

Lord PALMERSTON said that if they who now condemned the policy of the late government in India had hitherto abstained from condemning it because the tide of public opinion was in its favour, they exhibited great want of moral courage. He defended the policy of preventing Persia from extending its boundary by gaining Afghanistan—a system of policy that had the simultaneous sanction of the government at home and of Lord Auckland, without any previous concert. He also warmly vindicated generally the foreign policy pursued by the late government.

Mr HUME complained that the noble lord had meddled with many things with which he had nothing to do; and complained also of the garbling of Sir A. Burnes's dispatch.

Lord J. RUSSELL said, on the part of the late government, that he had no objection to the production of the papers; but in consequence of objections stated by Sir R. Peel, he thought it would not be expedient that all the documents moved for should be laid before the House.

Mr BAILLIE said he should withdraw his motion, but Mr HUME insisted upon a division being taken on the question, and the motion was negatived by a majority of 75 to 9.

Friday, June 24.

NEW POOR LAW.

On the motion for going into committee on the Poor-law Amendment act, Mr LAWSON moved that it be an instruction to the committee to divide the bill into two parts. Sir JAMES GRAHAM opposed the amendment, which, after some conversation, was withdrawn.

Mr T. DUNCOMBE then moved a resolution, purporting that there was not sufficient time left in the present session to allow the deliberation due to this measure, and that a temporary bill ought therefore to be substituted. He alluded to the short time which remained to them to discuss the important subject, only five weeks; and took a review of the present state of the business before them, from which he argued that it would be impossible to do justice to it. Under these circumstances he trusted the government would give way.

He was satisfied that her Majesty's ministers would pursue a wise course in acceding to the motion he was about to submit to the House, and in postponing the discussion of this bill to next session. Depend upon it that, by pursuing a conciliatory course with respect to this bill, they would do more towards reconciling the working classes of the country and putting down discontent, much more than by forcing it upon the country, as they were about to attempt to do—an attempt, however, which he firmly believed would end in defeat and disappointment, for it appeared to him totally impossible that any such bill could become the law of the land in the present session.

Mr WALLACE seconded the motion.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM opposed the motion, but at the same time admitted that it was a fair and proper way of deciding the question; and if a decisive majority on this motion should pronounce in favour of the further proceeding, he trusted there would be an end of resistance for the mere purpose of delay. The administration of relief to the poor was now surrounded with great difficulties.

No one can possibly be more impressed with a sense of the distress which prevails throughout the country than I am myself; and, feeling very deeply on the condition of the people, I also feel that the subject of the treatment of the poor must be, under such circumstances and at such a time, a subject environed with peculiar difficulties. My duty is, however, to consider how we may meet these difficulties most safely, and most for the general public interest; and having had some experience, having carefully and maturely deliberated—knowing and admitting that 1,200,000 people are at the present time receiving relief from the parochial rates—(loud cries of "hear, hear,")—I understand that cheer, but hon. members must recollect that I am here in my position as Minister of the Crown, performing a deliberate duty, and that I am asking the great council of the nation to come to our assistance in a moment of great public difficulty. When interrupted, I was saying that I admitted the distress, that I knew 1,200,000 of the people were receiving parochial relief, and that I was going on to add that I had asked myself how such circumstances might be best met? Now, I have had some experience of former distress, without the exercise of control by Poor Law Commissioners, and I also have had experience of distress under the system of control those commissioners have exercised; and, advising the Crown, I deliberately say that I believe distress can, at the present time, only be safely met by the continuance to the Poor Law Commissioners of the general powers which they now exercise, and which I ask you to continue to them.

Under these circumstances, he considered that a restriction of the commission to a single twelvemonth would impair its influence, by indicating that it was distrusted by parliament; and in the existing

difficulties it was most important to possess, not only an effective central control, but also the facility of making local inquiries by means of assistant commissioners. When the clause for the continuation of the commission should have been carried, almost all the remaining clauses would be found to be on the side of mitigation.

Mr HUME said it was not charity, but employment, which the people wanted, and the only mode of providing that, was by destroying the monopoly of the corn laws.

The Parliament had passed a bill to prevent the self support of the people. They had adopted a measure preventing the free importation of corn. He understood that in the manufacturing districts, the invariable cry was, "We don't want your charity we want work." Parliament had refused them the ability of procuring that work. Her Majesty's Government would not let them have it. They were acting on the scriptural mandate to the Israelites, to make bricks without straw. The vote he should presently give would be the first he ever gave against the Poor Law Amendment Act; but when he saw such misery existing throughout the length and breadth of the land—when he saw also the determination of parliament to take no immediate step for its removal, he felt that he could not give his consent to a law of this sort until further inquiries had been instituted.

Mr LIDDELL advocated the division of the bill.

Lord J. RUSSELL expressed a hope that if the House were disposed to continue the present poor laws, they would maintain the time stated in the bill for the Poor Law commissioners to remain in office.

Colonel WOOD thought the measure a great improvement on the old system.

Mr FERRAND reminded the ministers that they owed their places to the people's detestation of the new Poor law, and the impression that a conservative government would repeal it. He commented at some length, and with great warmth, upon the various reports of the commissioners, and argued in his usual strain against the measure. He warned Sir R. PEEL that if he continued the commission as he contemplated, his government would not last two years.

Colonel WOOD opposed the motion, and Mr STUART WORTLEY supported it, as did also Mr WAKLEY and Mr COCHRANE.

Mr ROEBUCK blamed ministers for allowing their adherents to make use of the anti-poor law agitation, to oust the party then in power; but at the same time he strongly supported the present law. He wished to see it fixed and permanent, as he was convinced it would benefit the rate-payer, and the unfortunate class who were obliged to apply for relief.

Sir ROBERT PEEL could hold out no hope of the acquiescence of the government in any proposition for delaying the Poor-law Amendment bill, or postponing it till another year. He hoped, therefore, that no merely factious opposition would be offered to a measure on which there had been time for mature deliberation. He denied that he was responsible for the party use made of the question out of doors; he had always avowed his own opinion and that was enough for him.

The hon. gentleman says that I don't compel my own party to agree with me. I don't profess to have any power of that sort. It is excessively difficult to compel gentlemen into an implicit acquiescence with your own opinions. But I may say that during the time I have had the honour of leading what is called the conservative party in this house, I have had tolerably strong proofs of their disposition to acquiesce and agree in my general policy. But it cannot be expected that I should exercise a sort of censorship over every one with respect to the Poor-law bill; and if I find a man demonstrating that he holds different opinions from mine, I don't think I am bound to remonstrate with him either publicly or privately. I don't think Lord John Russell has been more successful with the party which he led in making them acquiesce with his opinions; and notwithstanding the great abilities of the hon. gentleman himself, I don't think he has given any very significant proofs that he could always enforce his opinions upon his party. There has been a general disposition amongst the party with which I have the honour to be identified, to acquiesce with the advice I have given both in and out of office; but I cannot undertake to be responsible for the opinions which individual gentlemen may entertain on the subject of the poor laws.

He was surprised at the frequent contrasts drawn between the statute of Elizabeth and the present law, as if the present law had robbed the poor of some previous privilege. The statute of Elizabeth gave no right of relief to able-bodied men without work; and if in any country such a right were ever established, there would be a speedy dissolution of all society there.

The social welfare and moral habits of any nation would be undermined and destroyed if such a law were enforced; but it will be seen that such was not the law even according to the 43rd of Elizabeth. Take the case of the infant poor. With regard to children, I cannot help thinking that the present law is as mild as that of Elizabeth, for by the act of Elizabeth the churchwardens were empowered to take children and put them out as apprentices, and each male was to remain an apprentice until he reached the age of 24, and each female until she was 21 years of age. That was the enactment with respect to apprentices. So little disposition was there in the act of Elizabeth to recognise the indefeasible right of the poor to relief without labour, that the male must be bound apprentice to work until 24 years old, and the female until the age of 21, having no power to dissolve the engagement entered into by the overseers and churchwardens. Now what was the law with respect to impotent persons? "And to the intent that necessary places of habitation may more conveniently be provided for such poor impotent people, be it enacted, that it shall and may be lawful for the churchwardens and overseers, by leave of the lord of the manor whereof any waste or common within the parish is found, to erect, build, and set up fit and convenient places of habitation in such waste or common at the general charges of the parish." Poorhouses, then, were provided, but out-door relief was not necessarily given by the act of Elizabeth. So far from that, these habitations were to be provided for the impotent, blind, and aged.

He contended that there was therefore no difference in principle between the old law and the new. He then read some extracts from Mr Mott's report, showing the wretched state of the paupers in Mr Ferrand's union. Under the old law, abuses were undisclosed; but under the new every evil was published and circulated; and thus he believed that the poor had been greatly advantaged. His motive for the course he now took was not to save the rates; but he could not lose sight of the principle that the industrious poor ought not to be taxed for the maintenance of their idle neighbours.

Lord HOWICK thought that the Right Hon. Baronet ought to have done more than he did to discountenance the agitation against the poor law amongst his supporters.

Mr O'CONNELL was in favour of the amendment, as next year they should be able to see the effect of the experiment in Ireland.

After some further discussion in which Mr COBDEN, Mr S. CRAWFORD, Lord ELLIOT, and others took part, Mr FIELDEN moved the adjournment of the debate till Monday. The House divided and negatived the adjournment by a majority of 297 to 29; but Sir C. NAPIER immediately made a similar motion, and Sir R. PEEL gave way. The debate was consequently adjourned till Monday.

Monday, June 27.

NEW POOR LAW.

The adjourned debate was resumed by Mr FIELDEN who spoke at some length, in reply to Mr Roebuck and Sir R. Peel, but in so low a tone as to be almost inaudible. He strongly opposed the bill.

Mr LAWSON then spoke briefly in favour of the amendment, and the House divided; when there appeared—for the amendment, 37; against it, 156.

On the first clause condemning the commission being read, Mr WAKLEY moved its postponement until the other clauses had been gone through. He contended that the House ought to know the complete character of the law before they prolonged the commission. He hoped ministers did not mean to carry their favourite clauses, and then abandon the best parts of the measure. He contended that although it might be true, the poor had the same claim to relief under this act as under the act of Elizabeth, yet they had not the same means of enforcing their claim. According to his view the law might suit an idle people, but the people of England were not idle. He went on at some length against the measure, and concluded by moving his amendment.

Sir JAMES GRAHAM said there was no intention, on the part of government, to pass a part of the bill, and abandon the rest. He hoped to pass all the clauses, and in the order in which they stood. Almost all of them after the 5th were mitigations; and those who sought to defeat this bill sought to continue the present law unsoftened in any of its harsher details. The true principle was, that while the sick, infirm, and aged should be deemed entitled to unconditional relief, the able-bodied should claim assistance only on condition of submitting to the test of hard work. That this hard work should be enforced in a workhouse was no innovation of the modern poor law; that was the express direction of the statute of 9 George I., which indeed went much further; for it also enacted, most objectionably, that the parish officers should have the power of farming out the poor. That statute distinctly prescribed that the poor should be entitled to no relief at all, unless they would accept it in the workhouse. Those provisions were not modified until 1796, when a new enactment was made, and produced the evils which the present poor law was passed to remedy. Feeling deeply and sincerely for the present distress, he was the more anxious, on that very account, to carry this bill, and to carry it in the order of its clauses.

Mr E. BULLER and Mr RICE opposed the amendment, which was supported by Mr BENNET, Mr S. WORTLEY, and Captain PECHILL.

Mr T. DUNCOMBE contended the appointing the commission ought to be the last clause. He quoted a speech of Sir E. Knatchbull, who last year moved the postponement of the corresponding clause in the bill of the late ministry.

Sir E. KNATCHBULL vindicated his consistency on the ground that the present bill was of a more modified nature than the bill of last session.

After some further debate the committee divided, and the amendment was rejected by 206 to 74.

Mr B. WOOD then proposed an amendment, having for its object the abolition of the assistant commissionerships. After a short debate this was rejected by 226 to 45. Captain PECHILL then moved the adjournment of the committee, and the House resumed.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Friday evening the Slave Trade Abolition bill was read a second time and ordered to be committed. The Public-houses bill passed through committee, was reported, and ordered to be read a third time on Monday; and on the motion of the Marquis of SALISBURY, the Liverpool Health of town and Improvement bill was ordered to be re-committed.

The Earl of BELHAVEN asked whether it was the intention of government to take the subject of the church of Scotland into consideration with a view of endeavouring to effect a satisfactory settlement of the disputes in reference to it. The Duke of WELLINGTON said the government had endeavoured to settle the question, but abandoned their intention, in consequence of finding that parties were not prepared to receive with satisfaction the government measure. The question was, however, still under consideration. The Duke of RICHMOND directed the attention of the government to the present state of the Scotch clergy, then suffering under suspension from their benefices. Lord BROUGHAM cautioned their lordships against any premature decision on any part of the case, as they might have to adjudicate on the whole matter.

The Copyright bill was then read a third time and passed; and the Salmon Fishery Regulation (Scotland) bill was read a second time, and referred to a select committee.

On Monday evening Lord DENMAN moved the second reading of the Affirmations bill, and adverted to two recent cases, in which justice had been defeated in consequence of the non-existence of such a measure. The guilty persons were permitted to escape, as the result of the refusal of conscientious witnesses to be sworn. Justice could not be obtained whilst the law of evidence repudiated witnesses who from conscientious feeling objected to take the oath usually administered. He denied that there was any truth in the argument that his bill would be open to abuses.

Had experience shown that the quakers had abused the exemption given to them? He thought the position of a witness was precisely that in which a man would be least likely to abuse the privilege which it was proposed to give him. An oath, on the other hand, was by no means a security for truth. Everybody knew that as many persons as might be wanted could be had to come forward and swear to anything in a court of justice. The market therefore was full, and there was no pretence for saying that persons who affirmed would be sought for in order to give false evidence. Another objection was contained in the question, how courts of justice were to know whether the deponent really felt these religious scruples or not? The answer was, they had just the same security as in other cases. If a man on coming to be sworn said, "I am a Jew," he was forthwith sworn on the Old Testament; if he was a Mahometan, on the Koran, and so on; the courts taking the assertion of the party in each case, and that was the only proof they could have. The case was one of most enormous evil so far as it went; it was the case of a set of most deserving, excellent men, and he, (Lord Denman) only wished that they could have stated their case instead of him, for they would have impressed it much more forcibly on the House. He proposed a remedy which was perfectly simple, and which he believed would be found perfectly efficacious, and which he thought would be attended with no danger.

The Earl of WICKLOW opposed the bill.

The Bishop of LONDON did not know what to do in the matter. The subject was one of so much difficulty, that he did not think that he could vote on either side. He could not but respect the scruples of the very respectable body of men who wished for the bill, although he did not concur in them. He should like to have the opinions of all the judges on the subject.

Lord CAMPBELL supported the bill. He thought all non jurors should be considered as a separate sect, and have the same exemption with regard to oaths as quakers and Moravians.

Lord ABINGER opposed the bill. He thought that there was no considerable number of individuals, except those sects already ex-

empted by law, who had conscientious scruples against taking an oath. With regard to quakers, he regretted to say that experience with regard to the exemption in their case, would not lead him to extend it farther.

He had a great respect for the sect of quakers, but he could not help saying that of all the witnesses who came into a court of justice quakers were the most disposed to fence with questions; he found that they seldom gave a direct answer to any question, and especially if the individual were a skilful man, he fenced with the question in a particular manner. With the experience he had of the abolition of oaths in the case of quakers, he was not disposed to extend it. Oaths were in all countries a part of a system for administering justice; in all countries there was the sanction of an appeal to heaven.

Lord BROUGHAM thought that having afforded relief to particular classes, they could not refuse it to those who declined oaths on conscientious grounds. As to the quakers hesitating or fencing, all his experience was of a contrary character.

He believed he had known this sect most intimately, in public and in private, during a long and uninterrupted intercourse, and he could say that it was the necessary result of their sincere and conscientious regard for truth and for the solemn obligation of what they called an affirmation, and which we called an oath, that they entertained an equal abhorrence of its violation. He believed that his noble and learned friend had confounded their great scrupulousness of affirming as to matter of fact with an attempt to evade a question and to prevaricate. It was because they felt the solemnity of the obligation that they spoke so scrupulously, which made his noble and learned friend think they were taking nice distinctions, whereas it arose from the rigour of their sense of the obligation.

He suggested that the bill should be referred to a committee to collect evidence.

The Bishop of LONDON said it would be better to refer the subject of oaths generally to a select committee, rather than the bill; and it was eventually arranged that his lordship should move for such a committee.

Lord DENMAN was astonished at Lord Abinger's declaration respecting the quakers, for all his experience of criminal and civil courts was of a contrary character; for it was almost invariably seen how much more attention was paid by juries to the evidence given by quakers than to that of parties who with very little ceremony had taken oaths.

The bill was then withdrawn, to substitute the inquiry of a select committee.

GENERAL POLITICS.

FOREIGN.

FRANCE.

The Paris papers are still occupied almost exclusively with election matters. The *Times*' correspondent says, an immense majority of the provincial papers boast anti-English prepossessions, and oppose the ratification of the treaty recognising the right of search, and declare they would never vote in favour of any commercial concessions to England. The journals said to be under the influence of M. Thiers are peculiarly remarkable for the violence of their allusions to this country. One of them dwells on the "right—not of search—but of pillage," exercised by the British frigate the *Madagascar* on a vessel called *Les Deux Sœurs*, on the coast of Africa, although no confirmation of the tale told by the captain of that ship had been received. The most important incident that had occurred respecting the elections was a declaration of General Jacqueminot to the electors of the first arrondissement, on Thursday last, which was held to indicate that Count Molé will replace M. Guisot in the department for foreign affairs.

SPAIN.

The *Madrid Official Gazette* announces the formation of the new ministry. It is composed as follows:—minister of war and president of the council, General Rodil; president of the senate, minister of the state, Count Almodovar; minister of justice, Zumalacarre; minister of finance, Ramon Calatrava (senator); minister of marine, Capaz (senator); minister of interior, Torres Solanot (senator).

A republican movement which broke out at Figueras has been suppressed. Certain demonstrations had manifested themselves throughout the province and in the administration. The Carlist bands were becoming more numerous, and had appeared in the neighbourhood of Barcelona. It is said a society of 5,000 republicans had been formed in Lampererdan, having for its leader Abdon Terrados, who was ill at Perpignan. Private correspondence from St Sebastian of the 18th instant announces that mysterious rumours of an approaching convulsion in that quarter were afloat, which appeared to be confirmed by the number of Carlist and Christino emigrants who were approaching the Spanish frontier. It was further whispered that an insurrectionary movement would be made at Tolosa on the 24th instant.

According to reports from the Spanish frontiers, some agitation had prevailed at Pampeluna, in consequence of a report that the constitution of 1812 was about to be proclaimed in that city. The authorities had adopted measures for the preservation of order, and the troops had been consigned during two days to their quarters. On the 17th all was quiet at Pampeluna and in the northern provinces of the peninsula.

PORTUGAL.

Advices from Lisbon are to the 20th instant. The elections for deputies to be returned to the Cortes had commenced on the previous day throughout the kingdom, and were not yet concluded in the provinces of Estremadura and Alemtego, in which alone any serious contests would take place. The government candidates had been returned by immense majorities in Oporto and the two Douro districts. The Estremadura (Lisbon district) elections were most vigorously contested. On the entire elections the government would have a majority of three to one. The commercial and slave-trade treaties remained still unsigned, the delay being attributable to squabbles about the force of certain words and phrases in translating the English draught sent from Downing street into Portuguese.

AMERICA.

The British Queen steamer, from New York, arrived at Cowes on Thursday morning. She left New York on the evening of the 7th instant, and has made the passage in fifteen days, notwithstanding she was compelled to ease her speed for two days while passing by an immense quantity of floating ice, in fields and icebergs, on the 12th and 13th, in lat. 42. 38., and long. 52. 35. The news brought by her is not important. The *Warspite* had arrived at New York, and was to

wait for Lord Ashburton, to bring him to this country as soon as his mission is terminated. The papers say but little on the subject of the negotiation, though it is generally believed that all is going on most amicably, and that even the right of search, and the Creole case, will be settled to the satisfaction of all parties. Orders have been given by the American government to reduce the navy. The following is from the *Times* correspondent:—Lord Ashburton's mission is nearly closed. The commissioners from Maine and Massachusetts have passed through this city for Washington, there to settle the treaty about the Maine boundary, and Mr Webster left here for Washington yesterday on the same errand. All the points of this treaty required by Mr Webster were acceded to some time since by Lord Ashburton except one; and on this one point he sent home for, and by the Great Western received, such special instructions on it as enable him to grant all that our government asks, and there is no doubt that all this matter will be brought to an amicable close in ten days. There is also a point in this new treaty by which an arrangement is to be made, yielding us all that we have desired in regard to impressment and the right of search, which is to be a separate and distinct arrangement from the present treaty on this subject between England and the other European powers. The great difficulty will be, however, in getting the Senate to agree to any treaty; for the two extremes in congress are so hostile to President Tyler, that they will oppose any and every measure calculated to redound to the credit of his administration.

At a late hour on Thursday night the New York line-of-packet ship, South America, arrived, bringing papers from New York and Philadelphia one day later than those brought by the last steamer. There is no news of either domestic or political importance. No further account of the earthquake at St Domingo had been received.

DOMESTIC.

METROPOLITAN.

A very crowded meeting of deputies from the various and numerous branches of the Anti-corn-law Associations of the metropolitan districts was held on Monday, at the central office of the association, West Strand, for the purpose of adopting such measures as should appear advisable in connexion with the Great Metropolitan Anti-corn-law Conference, to be held in Palace-yard, on the 5th July next, on the distressed state of the trade, commerce, and manufactures, of the country. Mr Place, having been called to the chair, opened the business of the meeting, after which a series of strong and spirited resolutions were proposed, seconded, and supported by Colonel Thompson, Mr Stock, Mr Taylor, sen., Mr A. R. Shaw, Mr Southmorse, Mr Murray, Mr Ely Radley, Mr Cobden, M.P., Mr Hamer Stanfield (Leeds), Mr Rawson (Manchester), Mr Ashdown, Mr Aikin (Mitcham), Mr Cox (Camberwell), &c. The most harrowing statements were made to the meeting by the respective speakers of the deep distress and suffering in their districts, and throughout the country generally, owing to the maintenance of the unjust corn laws; and a strong hope was expressed that the delegates from the various districts will be at their post on the 5th instant, at the great meeting in Palace-yard, furnished with all the information in their power, so as to amass a complete body of evidence of the distress existing throughout the country.

A court of aldermen was held on Friday for despatch of business, at which the admission of strangers to hear the "condemned sermon" at Newgate was discussed at much length. Motions in reprobation of the practice, and for giving power to the sheriffs to refuse admission, were unanimously agreed to; and a third motion respecting the presence of strangers within the gaol during the execution of capital convicts was referred to the gaol committee.

At a court of common council on Thursday a grant of 500*l.* was voted in aid of the fund raised under the Queen's letter for the relief of the poor in the manufacturing districts. An amendment, moved by Mr P. Taylor, to expend the money in bonded corn, which government should be petitioned to admit duty free, was rejected. In the course of conversation it was stated that the projected improvements at Holborn hill could not be commenced but by act of parliament. A resolution to petition parliament for investigation of bribery at the late parliamentary elections and its prevention in future, was unanimously carried. The Court then proceeded to the election of a town clerk, in the room of Mr Woodthorpe, deceased. The candidates were Mr Sergeant Merewether and Mr Pritchard: Mr Merewether was chosen, by 106 votes to 80.

A common hall was held on Friday, for the annual election of corporation officers. Alderman Hooper, citizen and vintner, and Jeremiah Pilcher, citizen and haberdasher, were elected sheriffs for the ensuing year, without opposition. The other officers subject to annual election, were all re-elected.

A deputation from the manufacturing districts are now in town, for the purpose of placing before government and the legislature facts connected with the present alarming state of that portion of the kingdom. They have already had interviews with Sir R. Peel, and several of the leading members on both sides of the house of Commons. A committee has been formed, to whom communications on the state of other districts of the country may be forwarded, addressed to Hamer Stansfeld, Esq., King's Arms hotel, Palace yard, Westminster. The accounts which they have received represent the state of trade, distress, and suffering in the manufacturing districts as truly deplorable and alarming. The operatives are described as in a condition of despair, and the master manufacturers as in a strait which places it beyond their power to administer any relief to their wants in the way of employment. The deputations mean to continue their sittings in the metropolis until after the great meeting of deputies, which is announced to take place at Brown's hotel, on the 5th of July, when they will return to their respective districts, to give personal accounts of the effects of their mission.

A meeting of dissenting ministers was held on Friday, at Devonshire square chapel, for the purpose of making a statement of the appalling distress now afflicting the manufacturing districts of this country, and the frightful prospects awaiting them in the ensuing year, and to consider what steps should be taken by the Christian part of the community in the crisis of the nation's affairs. The *Morning*

Chronicle states the following as the result of the meeting:—"The most eminent and influential ministers of the various dissenting denominations in London came forward on the occasion, and after listening to the statements of the delegates, who have recently arrived in town to entreat the attention of her Majesty's ministers to the appalling distress prevalent in their respective localities, and to pray the instant intervention of the legislature in their behalf, unanimously expressed their strong sense of the impending danger, and their earnest desire to do everything in their power to arouse the population of the metropolis from their apathy by disseminating amongst them a knowledge of the true state of things in the provinces. Immediate steps were adopted to further this object by the appointment of a numerous provisional committee, who are to resolve upon some public movement, with a view of impressing upon the legislature, before the close of the present session, the necessity of some immediate steps for averting the calamities impending on the country."

A quarterly general court of proprietors of East India stock was held yesterday, at the East India house. The Chairman said that, in conformity with the resolution of the general court of the 23d March last, certain papers relative to the emigration of natives of India to the Mauritius and other British settlements, which were then laid before the court, had been printed for the use of the proprietors, and the court was now made special for the purpose of taking those papers into consideration. Mr Weeding immediately rose, and stated, that he was entirely opposed to the emigration of Indian labourers to the Mauritius or elsewhere. In spite of all precautions, the measure would open the door to a new species of slave trade. He concluded by moving a string of resolutions in accordance with these sentiments, and recommending to the court of directors to abstain from sanctioning the measure which is contemplated. Mr C. F. Brown seconded the motion. The Chairman having stated that he would give his most decided opposition to the motion, Mr George Thompson said that, as the chairman intended to give the motion of the hon. proprietor a direct negative, he must enter his protest against such a course. He then made a powerful speech in support of the motion. The question was then put, and the chairman declared that the resolution was negatived. Mr Weeding called for a division; and, tellers being appointed, the court was counted, and the numbers declared to be—for the resolution, 22; against it, 54; majority, 32. Mr D. Salomons then moved, "that the expense of the Affghan war ought not to be thrown on the people of India, but that it should be borne by the exchequer of the United Kingdom," the debate on which was adjourned until Monday next.

The annual meeting of the African Civilization society took place on Tuesday, at Exeter hall; Lord Ashley in the chair. The platform was occupied by a large number of the members of both houses of parliament, of the clergy, and other friends of the society. A letter was read from Sir Fowell Buxton, who was kept away by illness, but who exhorted the society to be "faithful to their cause," and sent 50*l.* A letter from Thomas Clarkson stated the opinion that another expedition might be undertaken on a smaller scale than the last; they only required the bible and the plough; and very few persons would be needed to attend those instruments of good. The adoption of the report was moved by Lord John Russell, who denied that the late Niger expedition was a complete failure. After several other distinguished individuals had addressed the meeting the financial statement was made, from which it appeared that the society had a balance of 1,238*l.* in hand, but that it was only enough to meet the existing liabilities. Thanks having been voted to Prince Albert, president of the society, to the vice-presidents, and the chairman of the day, the meeting separated.

The third and last great choral meeting for the present season of the classes instructed on the principle of Wilhem of teaching singing, took place on Wednesday evening, at Exeter hall. Mr John Hullah presided. The meeting was, like the former ones, most numerous and respectably attended. On the platform were Sir Robert and Lady Peel, the Marquis of Downshire, the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland, Lord and Lady Robert Grosvenor, Lord and Lady Palmerston, Lord Radnor, &c. A considerable improvement was manifested by the pupils and the performance gave universal satisfaction. The funds raised by means of these choral meetings are, we understand, to be applied for defraying the expenses of the new writing and drawing classes lately established at Exeter hall, under the superintendence of the committee of council of education. Nearly 1,000*l.* has, it is said, been obtained by the three meetings.

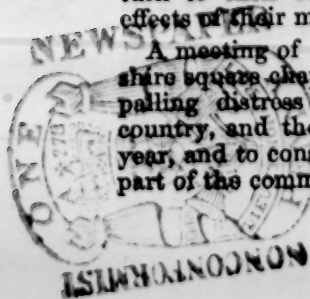
PROVINCIAL.

A petition has been presented against the last election for Ipswich, at which two tory members were returned.

A short time since the Poor Law commissioners issued an order to the Braintree board of guardians, to the effect "that their clerks do transmit to the assistant-commissioner of the district, after every ordinary meeting of the guardians, a copy of any special minute made, or notice of motion on the books;" to which a strong remonstrance was forwarded by the board to the Central commissioners. The board met on Monday for the purpose of taking the reply of the commissioners to the remonstrance into consideration. As the commissioners vindicated the legality, and defended the expediency, of the obnoxious order, and expressed their determination to enforce it, the chairman of the board (the Rev. J. P. Wood) resigned his office; and the board, having first passed a resolution of thanks to the rev. gentleman for his conduct as chairman of the board, and another declaring the order unnecessary and arbitrary, also resigned, leaving the business of the union in the hands of the clerk and the relieving officers.

The district in Lancashire called the Forest of Rossendale, forming a square of about 24 miles in breadth and length, between Bolton, Blackburn, and Burnley, was, a century since, only a waste of moors and bushes, not worth more altogether than a thousand pounds a year. It is now studded over with factories, print-works, and bleaching establishments, cultivated with dairy farms to the very summit of its hills, and worth at least sixty thousand pounds of annual rental.

A great sensation was created amongst the merchants and manufacturers of Bradford, engaged in the German trade, by intelligence



which was received in that town on Thursday morning, that at the meeting of the German Commercial League to be held at Stuttgart, in the first week in July, the Prussian government would make a proposition to increase the duty upon the importation of worsted goods, and goods of mixed materials. A meeting of gentlemen interested in the trade, was in consequence held at Bradford, on Thursday to consider what measures should be adopted with reference to it; J. G. Horsfall, Esq. in the chair. After a short conversation it was unanimously resolved that a deputation should wait upon Sir Robert Peel, for the purpose of urging upon him the necessity of immediate representations to the Prussian government in order to avert the mischief. A subscription was then entered into to defray expenses, and a committee appointed to carry out the decision of the meeting.

Dr W. Cooke Taylor has addressed a letter to the *Morning Chronicle* on the condition of the districts around Colne, Burnley, Padinham, and the forest of Rossendale, from which the following startling facts are extracted.

"In Colne, in Bolton, and in Burnley, there was generally an absence of anger and violence in the recitals of suffering; but here (in Padinham) teeth were set, hands were clenched, and curses of fearful bitterness pronounced with harrowing energy. 'We wait but for the word to begin,' was stated broadly and openly by every hand-loom weaver or block printer I met in the place; and the tone in which this declaration was uttered gave startling evidence of its sincerity. There was a reckless desperation about the aspect of misery in Padinham which was unlike anything I ever saw in Lancashire, but I doubt if it be more dangerous than the steady and fixed resolution to obtain a redress of real or imaginary grievances which I found among the people in Colne and Marsden. The destitution in all these places is much alike; in all you may have the same declaration that 'things are worsening;' in all, too, you may find something like a determination to effect a change; but in Padinham and its neighbourhood there are superadded aspirations for vengeance and threats of retaliating wrongs on the heads of supposed oppressors.

"I found the working people of Burnley all chartists; but with this difference, that the block printers and hand-loom weavers united to their chartism a hatred of machinery, which was far from being shared by the factory operators. The latter also deprecated anything like an appeal to physical force, while the former strenuously urged an immediate appeal to arms. There was no concealment of sentiment on either side. I heard more than twenty openly advocate the expediency of burning down the mills in order to compel the factory hands to join in an insurrectionary movement.

"I must add, that all the places and persons I visited in Colne were scrupulously clean. The misery was fearful, but it had nothing which could offend the most fastidious. The children were in rags, but they were not in filth, and patching had been continued until the material was no longer able to hold the thread. I was told that there had been several instances of death by sheer starvation. On asking why application had not been made to the parish for relief, I was informed that they were persons from agricultural districts, who, on committing an act of vagrancy, would be sent to their parishes, and that they had rather endure anything, in the hope of some manufacturing revival, than return to the condition of farm labourers from which they had emerged. On offering relief to one poor operative, he refused to receive it until I had given him my name and address, that he might repay it if ever an opportunity offered."

The adjourned meeting of the shopkeepers of Manchester, for the purpose of making known, as far as possible, the distress prevailing among them, with a view of obtaining a remedy, was held on Tuesday last. The admission was by ballot. Most important facts setting forth the rapid decline in business; that the distress was greater than had ever before been experienced by any present; that confidence is destroyed; and that unless some change took place inevitable ruin would be the result; were discussed before the meeting. A shopkeeper moved in place of one of the resolutions an amendment in favour of the charter. Several persons supported it, and on a show of hands, the chairman declared the numbers equal. The resolution and amendment were then amalgamated into one, and carried by an overwhelming majority. The following is the amended resolution:—"That in the opinion of the meeting nothing less than an extension of the political power of the people, by the enactment of the charter, together with the repeal of those restrictive laws which cripple our trade with other nations, will remove the distresses under which the shopkeepers are now suffering." In reference to this meeting the *Leeds Mercury* makes the following observations:—

"From the circumstance that admission was by ticket, and no tickets given but to shopkeepers only, the statements made and the sentiments then expressed, must be deemed as those of that class—a class, not of famishing men—not a body of hand-loom weavers—not a regiment of mechanics seeking for employment, but seeking in vain;—no; but a body of men 1,500 or 2,000 in number, who have something to lose, and who feel that something to be, by a subtle but regular operation, disappearing, notwithstanding the utmost care and industry is momentarily exercised to prevent it. When, therefore, such an influential class is induced, almost to a man, to meet and to remonstrate with a government, having the power but not the inclination to attempt the correction of the many grievances with which they are afflicted, and the still sorer distress with which they are threatened, it is time indeed for those in authority to look about them, for it needs not a prophet to foretell that when symptoms like these become general, that the writ burnings of 1830, which drove the iron Duke from power, were as nothing when compared with what must soon occur, if the present times continue. But the fact, the strange fact, that the shopkeepers of Manchester should be found almost to a man favourable to the charter, is what no one could reasonably have anticipated to have been so unquestionably demonstrated as it was on this occasion. Let the government, therefore, ponder well upon the union that there took place, viz.,—the embodying of the five points with the shopkeepers' resolutions, and carrying them with only four of five dissentients! The meeting, though rough at times, did not break out into open acts of violence, but its tone, temper, and determination, it would be folly in our rulers to contemn."

Strange and appalling as the fact may seem, when considered in connexion with the present season, it is nevertheless true, that distress is gradually on the increase in this town and neighbourhood. There was a considerable increase in the number of applications for relief at the board of guardians on Monday last, in consequence of which the sitting of the board was protracted from ten o'clock in the morning until half-past nine at night.—*Stockport Chronicle*.

A requisition has been presented to the Mayor of Leeds, signed by upwards of 200 shopkeepers, requesting to call a meeting of tradesmen "to enable them publicly to make known the unparalleled distress which prevails in the borough of Leeds, and the general decay of trade consequent thereon; and to adopt such measures relating thereto as may be deemed advisable, regardless of party considerations, with a view to avert impending ruin." A meeting was appointed to take place this day.

The neighbourhood of Bristol has during the past week, been the scene of some of the most daring highway robberies, accompanied

with brutal violence. The whole of these robberies have evidently been perpetrated by the same persons—an organised gang of ruffians, consisting of seven persons, three or four of whom are armed with large horse pistols, and who have attacked farmers and others on their return from market, within even a single mile of the city. Immense excitement has prevailed throughout this city since Monday, in consequence of its being known that a party of Irishmen had attacked some of the police on Sunday, and beaten one of them in so brutal a manner, that he has died from the wounds. Six Irishmen, all of whom are positively identified as having been of the party who attacked the deceased, are in custody.

SCOTLAND.

The number of unemployed, and their dependents, in Paisley, as taken upon a new inspection, amounts to 8,050. For some weeks past the unemployed have been supported with funds entrusted to their charge by commissioners from London; but Mr Twistleton, one of the commissioners, has intimated that his connexion with the Paisley Relief committee has now ceased, and that he has been appointed by the Relief committee in London to organise a new committee to take charge of the employment. Mr Twistleton has, in consequence, named a committee of fourteen gentlemen.—*Edinburgh Witness*.

Upwards of two hundred emigrants left Aberdeen, last week, for America, and many others are preparing to follow. We deeply regret the necessity which obliges so many of our countrymen and women to expatriate themselves, but, in present circumstances, emigration seems the only alternative.—*Aberdeen Herald*.

A meeting of working men was held on the Carlton hill, on Monday night, at which a memorial to her Majesty was agreed to, that she would be pleased to order an inquiry into the circumstances connected with the late proceedings at Ennis. We should suppose from 3,000 to 4,000 persons were present, but the dampness of the evening prevented many from remaining; and, we believe, led to the termination of the proceedings sooner than was anticipated. The meeting was orderly and decorous; and, so far as we heard, the speeches were temperate.—*Scottish Pilot*.

POSTSCRIPT.

Wednesday, June 29.

In the House of Commons last night Mr HUME asked if the announced issue of half-farthings was a hoax. Mr GLADSTONE said it was no hoax. The coin was in constant demand in some of the colonies, to which they would be shipped, if they were found to be useless in this country.

Mr WALTER was then called to the bar, and stated that his refusal to attend the committee arose from no disrespect to the House or reluctance to give evidence, but from a feeling that every subject of the realm ought to be arraigned and tried before an impartial tribunal. The chairman of the committee, Mr Roebuck, had used terms respecting him within the house which indicated strong personal hostility. He, however, submitted himself to the House, claiming its protection.

Mr ROEBUCK moved that Mr Walter be ordered to attend the committee, and give evidence. A conversation arose upon this being put, in the course of which Sir GEORGE GREY suggested that Mr Walter ought to be admonished. Mr Roebuck's motion was ultimately carried by a majority of 223 to 77. Mr ROEBUCK then announced a similar motion for to-morrow respecting Mr A. B. Cochrane, member for Bridport, who had refused to attend the committee.

The Tariff bill was then brought on for the third reading. Mr JERVIS moved a proviso, for a drawback of the duty paid on exported coal, when re-shipped in foreign ports on board British steamers, for their own consumption. The motion was opposed by government, on the ground that it would lead to numerous frauds, and was rejected by a majority of 80 to 42. Mr DUNCOMBE then moved that the reduced duty on onion seed should come into operation directly, instead of being postponed till 1843, which was rejected by 93 to 63. He then proposed that the duty on cork should be reduced from 16s. to 4s. per cwt., which was rejected by 110 to 74. The question was then put that the bill do now pass; and Lord JOHN RUSSELL addressed the House at some length, pointing out its defects and inconsistencies and regretting that the important articles of corn, sugar, coffee, &c., were not dealt with. Sir R. PEEL replied, and vindicated the course he had pursued; and the bill was passed amidst loud cheering. The British Possessions Abroad bill was then read a third time, and the House adjourned.

In the house of Lords the select committee for considering the subject of oaths was appointed; and after a brief conversation on a motion by the Earl of Mountcashel on the subject of the report on the medical charities of Ireland, and the suppression of letters by the Irish Poor Law commissioners, their Lordships adjourned.

American papers and letters have been received of nine days later date than those brought by the British Queen, by the steam ship, Columbia, which arrived at Liverpool yesterday. Her voyage from Boston, including a stoppage of six hours at Halifax to land and take in passengers and mails, has been performed in eleven days six hours, a more rapid run than was ever before made by any vessel. The news is not important. The *New York Herald* says—"Every event seems to conspire in assuring us that the negotiations between Lord Ashburton and our government will have a peaceable and honourable termination. Within the last few days the commissioners and agents of the several states interested have arrived at Washington, and are now consulting the government during the progress of the negotiation. These commissioners have full powers from their several states to agree to a new treaty on honourable principles." The same paper also states that the boundary question is in progress to a speedy settlement. The New Orleans banks are again suspended.

CORN MARKET. MARK LANE, THIS DAY.

The quantity of grain of all descriptions received this morning is very small. The market is heavy and prices are drooping.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"Grapheus." Many thanks for his kindness. We will think of his suggestion.

"E. J." We propose to take up the subject in our next number.

"A Nonconformist." The matter is hardly worth further discussion.

A correspondent, who is leaving the country, informs us that he is able to dispose of the back numbers of the *Nonconformist*, in good condition, from 1 to 61 inclusive. Should any of our friends wish to possess themselves of the series, they can make us the medium of communication.

Terms for advertising in the *Nonconformist*.

For 8 lines 5s. 0d.	For 16 lines... 7 0	For 24 lines... 9 0
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The Nonconformist.

LONDON: WEDNESDAY, JUNE 22, 1842.

SUMMARY.

DISTRESS continues—increases—and in our manufacturing districts threatens to become unmanageable. Throughout the north and west of England, symptoms of social disorganization are appearing, one after another, with fearful rapidity. Bands of starving men parade the public roads and ask relief with a determination which renders it unsafe to refuse. When apprehended and taken before the magistrate, they eagerly demand to be sent to prison. Poverty has been so long treated as a crime that our starving workmen seem to think the things themselves are separated by no wide interval. A deputation is now in London, seeking to impress upon government the necessity of framing measures to meet the immediate wants of the country, before the houses of legislature are dismissed. The dissenting ministers of the metropolis have been called together, and have determined upon awakening attention to the distress by means of a public meeting. It is scarcely possible to exaggerate the frightful picture of suffering presented at this moment by our largest manufacturing towns. We are now eating the bitter fruits of class legislation, and now, as in all former times, there are no small numbers of the middle class, and amongst them grave divines professing liberal sentiments, who cling convulsively to aristocratic institutions, and publicly sneer at, as nostrums, every proposition to stay the plague at its very source. Would that we could give these men just a sufficient taste of political outlawry, and all the evils which result from it, as to capacitate them for sympathizing with those whom misgovernment most afflicts, and who, in consequence of arbitrary and unjust laws, possess no means of redress.

Of the complete suffrage movement we are unable to report any flattering indications of progress. The delay of the Nottingham writ through the joint influence of Sir Robert Peel and Mr Roebuck, seems to hold in suspense all active proceedings, and we doubt much now whether the election for Nottingham will not be pushed over till another session of parliament. The return of Mr Sturge, which we yet venture to anticipate, would instantly infuse new life into the movement. We must be content, therefore, to wait a few weeks with patience, satisfied that the pressure of events will speedily drive the most reluctant into the ranks of the "Union." The income tax, which has now become law, will operate as a charm to unseal the eyes of slumberers; and the growing danger of a popular outbreak, will doubtless give urgency to arguments which heretofore have been suffered to pass unheeded.

The House of Lords still sits at ease, having little to do in the shape of legislation. On Monday night, Lord Denman proposed the second reading of the Affirmation bill, in a speech which reflected great credit upon his lordship's common sense. The discussion was chiefly remarkable for a furious onset of Lord Abinger upon the body of quakers. The attack, however, did not seem to answer even in the house of peers, for it was repelled by Lords Brougham and Denman with great spirit and some warmth of indignation. The second reading was ultimately postponed, the Bishop of London undertaking to move for a select committee to consider the subject of oaths generally as received in courts of law, with authority to receive evidence thereon.

In the House of Commons on Wednesday night, the Mines and Collieries bill went into committee. On this occasion, Lord Ashley called the attention of the House to two addresses, one from 500 men assembled at Barnsley, the other from women employed in the pits, expressing to the House the deepest gratitude for the sympathy manifested on their behalf. The various clauses of the bill were agreed to with this change—on clause 2 being read Lord Ashley proposed to substitute for it a clause to the following effect: "That no boy under ten years of age should be employed in a colliery; but that between that age and thirteen, they might be employed three days alternately in the week, for twelve hours a day—the period for commencing their labour being nine o'clock in the morning."

On Thursday Mr Baillie brought forward his motion respecting the expedition to Afghanistan. The whole debate is worthy of minute attention, as proving what our legislators believe to be an ample justification for plunging into all the horrors of an aggressive war. On Friday, on the motion for going into committee on the Poor Law Amendment act, Mr T. Duncombe, after an able speech, moved a resolution to the following purport—That there was not sufficient time left in the present session to allow the deliberation due to this measure, and that a temporary bill ought, therefore, to be substituted.

This motion Sir James Graham resisted; whereupon ensued a long and very characteristic discussion. The whigs, the political economists of which Mr Roebuck is the representative, and the Tories, who made their opposition to the measure a stalking-horse to power, united in upholding it. Some hard hits were dealt out to Sir Robert Peel, which the honourable baronet ineffectually strove to parry. The debate was finally adjourned till Monday. On Monday, accordingly, it was resumed by Mr Fielden, and the division of the House showed, in favour of Mr Duncombe's motion, 37; against it, 156; majority, 119. Several other amendments were proposed in the course of the evening, all of which were negatived by overwhelming majorities. For the precise character of them we must refer our readers to our parliamentary report.

MOBOCRACY.

THIS is a term which the opponents of popular government know how to use with effect. It is a stone which, hurled from their sling, seldom falls short of the mark at which it is aimed. No one word, perhaps, can be found, which seems to convey such a condensed mass of argument. Like heated shot, it sets on fire that which it penetrates. It invariably carries with it associations which are but too apt to kindle the resentment, even of the coolest and most sober. "Of all despotisms, the despotism of a mob is the most formidable." The frequency with which this sentiment is uttered—the sure refuge which it provides against the force of reasoning or the pungency of appeal—the readiness with which all classes betake themselves to it—and the smiling complacency with which they look out from the loop-holes of it, and defy the power of argument to drive them thence, prove how much stronger words are than things, and how much easier it is to frighten men with ill-understood terms than to persuade them to a cool examination of the propriety of their use. Were an angel from heaven to appear amongst us on a mission of justice or benevolence, ignorance or malignity might go far to defeat his purpose, by simply branding him with the name of "chartist"—and Solon himself might frame in vain a *beau ideal* of good government, if only a sufficient staff of public men would agree to pelt it with the word "mobocracy." We have seen this last term wielded against the movement for complete suffrage—and we are only surprised that, hitherto, no one has charged that movement with a deliberate design and tendency to promote atheism—for it may be reproached with the latter, as justly as with the former.

In all cases like the present, it appears, in our judgment, not unreasonable, to submit to the assailant of great principles, a few simple questions. We have no wish to press home our inquiries uncourteously, and, therefore, we shall relieve hesitation by answering them ourselves. We may suppose, then, some strenuous advocate of "things as they are," urging, in opposition to complete suffrage, the evils of mobocracy—citing the testimony of well authenticated history to prove, that the many-headed monster—the mob, is utterly unfit for managing the affairs of government—that it is the creature of the blindest impulse, fickle as the wind, reckless of all the principles of justice, headstrong as a mountain torrent, cruel and ferocious as death itself. The theme is one upon which eloquence may descant with special facility, with great truthfulness, and with irresistible effect. It opens a fine field for a vigorous fancy—a mass swayed hither and thither, like a tumultuous sea, foaming out its own ungovernable discontent, breaking down at last the barriers of law, and in an incredibly brief time, devastating the whole country. The orator, too, may introduce some touching episodes, and relieve his general subject by startling pictures of pillage, massacre, or conflagration. This being done, we take the liberty of asking, what is the precise meaning of mobocracy? What connexion, even the remotest, has it with a popular form of government? and granting the whole of what has been said to be unquestionable as to its truth, wherein consists its applicability to the subject under discussion? To queries such as these, we deem it not inappropriate to furnish our readers with tolerably plain answers.

There is this obvious difference between mobocracy and popular government—government founded upon complete suffrage—that the first is a centralisation, the last, a distribution, of political power. It may be asserted with the utmost safety that the guarantees for good government are multiplied just in proportion to the number of separate individualities, which can bring their influence to bear upon its conduct. We say individualities, for it is plain that bodies of men may possess all the unity of purpose usually attributed to individuals. Now, a mob is to all intents and purposes a single individual entity for the time being, however numerous may be its component parts. It is one assembly, gathered together in one place, swayed by the same passion, insisting upon the same purpose, cognisant of no responsibility. It is and must be a single body—a distinct individuality—an unit; and when possessed of supreme power is as very a despot as any one man who has ever held in his hands the reins of dominion. Ten thousand men made one by becoming a mob, are not by any means the same as ten thousand men exercising each a separate political power by means of the franchise. In the first case one will works without check; in the last we have an endless variety of wills, each interposing an obstacle to the selfish designs of others. We beg, therefore, to ask those who fling against the suffrage movement the charge of favouring mobocracy, by what process of arithmetic they have arrived at the conclusion that the parceling out of political power amongst the millions, and providing for its separate and individual exercise, tends to the concentration of that same power in the hands of a body necessarily convened in one place, and usually acting under one and the same impulse—in other words, we put it to the reason of these cavaliers, whether distribution is the direct road to centralisation.

It is further to be remarked that almost every evil which experience has shown to be the certain result of mob rule, may be traced to the individuality of the body, rather than to the character of the persons of whom it is composed. It is not because mobs are made up for the most part of low, uneducated men, that they have been found capricious, unreasonable, and cruel. In America, a mob of middle class men is equally violent, equally formidable, as a mob of the lowest description elsewhere. The fact is, that when men are crowded together in one place, and become one assembly, they lose their individual reflective powers and their separate consciousness of responsibility. By some mysterious law of sympathy men are in such cases moved *en masse*. Each mind is but a drop in a wide sea of minds which any temporary impulse may sway, and any gust of passion blow into a storm. Fear, anger, joy, revenge—all the emotions, in short, of which human nature is susceptible, travel through the crowd with electric rapidity. Men in this gregarious state cease to be under the control of individual reason. For the time being they are creatures of passion only. The coolest judgment may be hurried into impetuosity by the excitement of the moment. The utmost sobriety of soul will be found an insufficient safeguard against the contagion of the prevailing feeling. This it is which renders mobs so dangerous. We are very apt to fancy that the ferocity of a mob is but the aggregate of a vast number of separate ferocities, scattered pretty thickly amongst the labouring classes. We are wholly mistaken. The danger arises from the fermentation of human minds, thrown together in one heap, and acted upon by the consciousness of present possession of power, for the exercise of which none can call them to account. Break up any mob—the fiercest of which history has made mention—and when its separate particles have cooled down, analyse them, and you will find that they are neither more nor less than ordinary men or women, having affections, passions, consciences, much the same as ourselves; on the average, not worse nor better than the general run of human kind. It is anything but fair, then, to take our impression of the mode in which the millions will exercise political power through the medium of the franchise, from the mode in which man has usually exercised power when his separate individuality has been merged in a mob.

Suppose, however, the fact be disputed—let it be assumed that some of the hideous characteristics of a mob are obviously to be traced to the ignorance and the brutality of the persons composing it, raised into unnatural activity by the excitement of a crowd. We have then to urge that those who meet together in large masses out of doors are not fair representatives of the labouring population. How small a proportion does a mob at any time bear to the whole inhabitants of the neighbourhood in which it is gathered! The crowd is sure to attract the young, the idle, the dissolute, the reckless. Meanwhile for every one noisy and worthless bawler in the market place there are ten hard-working, industrious, honest, peaceable labourers at home, who prefer gaining their livelihood by their own exertions to clamouring for it in places of public resort. Why are these men to be judged of by the conduct of the others—those others, too, placed under an influence for evil, such as they who stay at home can never feel? Why do we take the worst sample of a class, and having put them in the worst possible position for human nature, ascribe their follies and their crimes to the whole class of which they form but a small proportion, be the circumstances however favourable which may affect the class as a whole?

Nor must it be forgotten that the readiest way to promote mob rule is to choke up every legitimate channel in which political feeling and opinion might safely flow. If popular dissatisfaction have no legalised outlet, it will make for itself a violent one. Men would rather act individually than in crowds, and it is only when they are prevented from bringing their individual will to bear upon the government to which they may chance to be subject, that they resort to tumultuous assemblies. The franchise is a safety valve for public discontent, and when men begin to vote they cease to clamour. We are much nearer to mobocracy at this moment than we should be under a system of complete suffrage. We cure fever, not by stopping up, but by throwing open, the pores of the skin. Let the political feeling of the masses have free and healthy play, and the body politic will be much less liable to convulsions. Human nature, outraged by misgovernment, will attempt to right itself by some method or other—by fair means, if fair means are within reach—by desperate ones, if desperate ones only can be had. Mobs and mob rule are but the fitful and irregular efforts of a people to throw off political disease, and the more violent the disease the more violent will be the throes of the patient.

Let those who are perpetually declaiming about mobocracy take care lest they bring to pass the very thing they affect to fear. Providence has appointed a remedy for all wrongs. The despotism of aristocracy gives birth to the despotism of mobocracy, and the worthless parent is at last destroyed by its more hideous offspring.

THE BALLOT.

THE close of the parliamentary session, when the two great political factions of the state, wearied with the strife of party politics, abate for a time the bitterness of opposition, is usually assigned for the discussion of certain hybrid motions, the protégés of neither side of the House. Pet measures—favorite hobbies are then the order of the day. An honourable member thirsting for reputation generally seizes the auspicious moment for bringing himself prominently before the public notice by the proposal of some favourite crotchet. Motions on all sides considered as bores—questions which, through out-door influence, it is necessary should be brought *pro forma* under the notice of the House, with no expectation, and often but little desire, on the part of their propounders, to carry

them—propositions which, if attended with immediate success, could not be persevered in so late in the session—and last of all, certain small measures of parliamentary reform, upon which an annual debate is taken and the matter then allowed quietly to drop—all these grace the last act of the parliamentary drama. Among the most prominent of these independent motions is the ballot.

On Tuesday last this question was brought on for discussion in the house, by Mr Ward. The debate presented no novel feature. It was tame and spiritless—a repetition of old arguments without even the life which has characterised its discussion at former periods. No popular expression of opinion gave weight to its introduction. Two petitions alone represented the national mind. The chief spokesman on this occasion seemed to handle it as a thing out of date. The radical members, its originators and formerly its most zealous supporters, gave a silent vote, with the exception of Mr Wakley, who spoke against it. The division showed a very great falling off in the friends of the ballot. Out of doors the effect has been still more striking. The disclosures made by Mr Roebuck's proceedings of the almost universal prevalence of bribery and intimidation during the last election—the scenes of corruption brought to light by election committees, and the admissions made by members themselves of the extent of the delinquency, were all so many powerful arguments in favour of the ballot. And yet the subject has not excited even ordinary interest among the people, nor has the press bestowed more than a passing comment upon the debate. In 1839 the ballot numbered 215 among its supporters, and its success at no very distant period appeared certain. The popular voice, too, was in its favour. In 1842, in spite of extrinsic aid from recent events in the House, 157 members alone supported it; out of doors it has scarce ruffled the surface of public opinion. Whence this revulsion of feelings on a measure acknowledged by all shades of reformers to have become necessary to our constitution? The cause, obvious as it is, is pregnant with instruction to the middle classes, and is an accurate indication of the temper of the times.

The redress of grievances, the application of palliatives, will, when attended to in time, silence for the most part a demand for organic reforms. A timely concession to popular claims might have postponed for an indefinite period those more sweeping changes which came in with the Reform bill. The government of that day obstinately refused to remove the most flagrant anomalies of our representative system, and the nation henceforth would be satisfied with nothing short of its re-construction. The state of things in the present day exhibits much in common with that period which preceded the passing of the Reform bill. The ballot, household suffrage, the repeal, or even a liberal modification, of the corn laws, might a few years since have put a stop to national discontent. They were refused by our legislature. Would the adoption of any one of them now give universal satisfaction? The demands of a nation rise in proportion as their just claims are disregarded. The refusal to examine their more palpable grievances, forces them to explore the springs from which such impure streams arise. Such has been the result of the selfish policy of our government in this country; the people have found out the root of all their ills. To destroy that, they apply their strength; nor will they waste their energies in lopping off the twigs and branches. Class legislation is the deadly plant, and all around it is poisoned by its pestilential influence. It is no imaginary grievance, but an eating canker, consuming the very foundations of our national prosperity. Its effects are felt in every province, every town of the kingdom. It has paralysed our commerce, crippled our resources, burdened us with a national debt and a heavy taxation, involved us in unjust and expensive wars, closed our foreign markets, created an artificial scarcity of the necessaries of life, at the same time that it has rendered useless the industry, of our working population—in fine it has brought the nation to the verge of ruin; all this may be traced to the government of an aristocracy. The country has learned by bitter experience the price of aristocratic legislation, and that its only effectual deathblow is an extension of the suffrage to all classes—a participation of all in their own government.

A full, fair, and free representation promises to root up the giant monopoly; are not the millions then right? Are they not endeavouring to guard against a future recurrence of that distress, beneath which they now groan, by standing fast to that principle? How much better to prevent a calamity, than deplore, or even assuage, it when it occurs.

The ballot, as a specific cure for our national ills, has had its day; the present session is in all probability the last that will witness its discussion as a separate measure. It is essentially a matter of detail, and suitable alone to form part of a system of comprehensive reform. If adopted, it would be a gross act of injustice to the unrepresented, and cut them off from even the small portion of indirect influence that they now retain. It would create a monopoly in the hands of the present electors, retard the progress of organic reform, and render the voice of the millions unheard, but in the thunder of civil convulsion. Its proposal at the present time, was but a mockery, and so the country has regarded it. It is the last expiring effort to dam up the current of democracy by embankments.

It did not deserve success, and we are not sorry to add, it was farther than ever from attaining it.

THE NEW POOR LAW.

PASSING circumstances have occasionally called forth from us passing remarks upon the Poor Law Amendment act. Here and there, as occasion served, we have intimated our dissatisfaction with that measure. We feel it now due to ourselves, due likewise to the present prominence of this question, to state somewhat more fully

the views we entertain upon it. The matter is one, as experience has proved, beset on every hand with difficulties and danger; not to be decided by the first generous impulses of the human heart, far less to be disposed of by the mere economical logic of the head. It is not a subject for dogmatism. It needs to be looked at on every side, to be regarded in all its bearings, social, economical, political, moral, and spiritual; to be considered in relation to present circumstances, as well as apart from all mere passing events. Hitherto, we fear, it has been too intimately blended with party movements, to allow of its being soberly and dispassionately discussed, and in this respect, the present parliament is nowise better than its predecessors.

The main principle of the Poor Law Amendment act is, the workhouse test. The establishment of unions, the furnishing commissioners and assistant commissioners with unparalleled despotic powers, we look upon simply as the machinery by which that test is sought to be applied. The test itself involves the breaking up of household arrangements, the disruption of family ties, strict confinement, and meagre diet, as the condition of extending relief to the destitute. The philosophy of it appears to be this, that the state is bound to afford bare subsistence to the poor, but nothing whatever beyond it; and such subsistence must be coupled with conditions, which shall hold out no temptations to idleness, improvidence, and profligacy. It is alleged in favour of the new system, that although severe to the rate receiver, it is an act of mercy to the poor but industrious rate payer, and that in the long run by teaching the labouring classes to rely upon their own resources, and to cherish an independence of spirit, it will prove essentially serviceable even to them. In the abstract justice of such arguments we are disposed to concur. Whether the case in hand will admit of their fair application is another question altogether. It will be impossible for us in a single article to give our whole views upon this point. We shall do what we can, leaving for a future number the completion of our remarks.

We may observe, then, in the first place, that a measure which professes to throw the poor upon their own resources, can only be just, as a concomitant of other measures removing all the restrictions by which those resources are impaired. The state has no right to say to the labouring millions—"be independent," until it has first abolished that whole mass of legislation which operates to the diminution of wages, and to the enhancement of the price of the main articles of living. If the toiling myriads be compelled, with a view to keep up the establishments of landed proprietors and wealthy monopolists, to forego the advantages of exchanging the fruit of their labour for the produce of other countries; if, for the protection of what is called vested property, they must sell their industry at the worst market, and buy their bread at the dearest; if, for the advantage of the classes above them they must yield up the right of freely exchanging what they do for what they want—then, assuredly, every effort of the state to enforce frugality and independence, by stringent and coercive means, is but adding wrong to wrong. The enactment of any fair system of Poor laws ought in justice to have been preceded by the adoption of free-trade principles; and if destitution is to be treated with severity as harsh as that which is meted out to crime, no chance by which destitution might be avoided ought to be legislatively taken away from the poor. Parliament first ties up the hands of our labourers, and then pompously enounces the scriptural maxim, "If any man will not work, neither let him eat." Such is the morality of class legislation.

We are not at all convinced, moreover, that the workhouse test embodied in the Poor Law Amendment act, is well and wisely calculated under any circumstances to encourage in the poor a spirit of independence. Whilst on the one hand it prevents an early application for relief, on the other it drives off the period at which in most cases applications are made, until the buoyancy of hope is lost, and every prospect of retrieving misfortune is utterly excluded. The causes by which the hardworking poor may be unexpectedly shut out from the spring at which they have supplied their wants are innumerable. Accident, disease, monetary derangements, successful competitors, the bankruptcy of employers, a thousand imaginable, and ten thousand unimaginable events may suddenly deprive them of their weekly income. At best their subsistence is but scanty; and though in theory saving money against a stormy day, looks well and is desirable, yet in ninety-nine cases out of every hundred, it is a matter of practical impossibility. The day of misfortune, however, arrives. One article of furniture after another goes irrecoverably in quest of food. Hope dies away. Despondency enters by the door at which hope departed. Then comes recklessness of spirit, thoughts of dishonesty, loss of shame, purposes of revenge, ungovernable ferocity, to be terminated at last by imprisonment in a union workhouse, and a violation of all the ties of natural relationship. Will those who have passed through this terrible ordeal be likely to gain independence of spirit? Is this a probable method of increasing the staple of public virtue? Men in whose bosoms hope is extinguished, are they ever found to be useful members of society? The severity of the test defeats itself. By overshooting the mark it promotes the very evil it was adopted to prevent. It seeks to foster genuine manhood by driving men into a position which manhood cannot survive.

We know the arguments of the political economists. We know, too, that those arguments are valid only when man is considered as a mere animal to be kept at the public expense. They leave out of view entirely every moral consideration. They pay no regard whatever to the awful deterioration of character which the severity of the Poor Law system is rapidly working out. They seem to assume that independence of parochial relief is not only the optimism, but the all in all of social virtue. That accomplished,

they take no note of what follows. The innumerable heart-breakings by means of which they attain their end, they survey with all the stoicism of a conqueror on a field of battle. This may do very well for philosophers in the closet, but, shield us from the bloodless, heartless philosophy of these men in the senate. We must leave the further consideration of the question to our next number.

"THE CRY IS STILL 'THEY COME.'"

LEICESTER.—A meeting of gentry, clergy, and tradesmen was held on Monday last in the Town hall, to consider the distressed state of many of the working classes in Leicester. The Mayor was in the chair; and it was agreed to enter into a subscription for the relief of the necessitous. £300 was immediately subscribed; and a committee for collecting and distributing the sum which should be raised was formed, consisting of gentlemen of all shades of politics, from ultra-toryism to ultra-radicalism; and it is hoped that all parties will do their utmost to alleviate, as far as possible, the severe distress which prevails amongst a large number of families in the town. *The system of large bodies of men begging together has again commenced this week.* The magistrates the week before last circulated handbills, cautioning these men that they were breaking the law, which put a stop to their proceedings for a short time. On Monday last they were on the New walk, and a policeman in the presence of our correspondent remonstrated with them, telling them that they were disobeying the orders of the authorities. They replied, "We know it; but what are we to do? we cannot starve. *If you wish to take us to gaol, we are ready to go—500 of us.*" From what was stated at the meeting at the Town hall on Monday, it is thought there are not so many men out of employ at present as there were when a former subscription was entered into (four or five years ago), though it is admitted that many are in a most deplorable condition.—*Stamford Mercury.*

THIS is a mode of *working* the question of reform which we have feared the distressed and starving population would resort to. If they should do so during the coming winter, our class legislators would soon find out that their system must be altered.

The New Poor law and its semi-starvation dietary, and the Game and Wilful Trespass acts, are rapidly removing from the minds of the poor, the distinction between crime and honest poverty. What will be the situation of our class legislators and men of property, if the million of families now reduced to the wretchedness of seeking relief, finding that there is no difference between a gaol and a workhouse, should unite in seeking the one or compelling admission into the other? If one-half of the destitute were to do this, it would immediately add one-fifth to their number from amongst the poorest of the present rate-payers. Then would come the end—then must come reconstruction, the much-feared but needlessly-dreaded organic change.

It is a fallacy for the possessors of wealth to say, when asked to relieve the present distress, that legislation cannot relieve it—legislation inflicts it.

The fallacy lies in the assumption that it is expected of them to *relieve* distress, whereas the people only ask them to cease to *inflict* it. They ask them, not to legislate, but to let commerce alone, and undo their legislation.

Monday was the anniversary of the Queen's accession to the throne, and it was marked by the usual rejoicings. The bells of the different metropolitan churches rang merry peals during the morning. At one o'clock the park and tower guns were fired, and in the evening her Majesty's tradesmen illuminated their houses. Yesterday being the anniversary of the coronation the same demonstrations were repeated.

A privy council was held on Wednesday, at the office of the comptroller-general of the exchequer, for the purpose of empanelling a jury of twenty-four members of the Goldsmith's company to assay the gold and silver coins of the realm. The lords present were, the lord chancellor, Lord Monteagle, the Duke of Buccleuch, Lord Wharnclyffe, Lord Fitzgerald and Vesey, Lord Bexley, Mr Gladstone, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and Sir Henry Hardinge. Several ladies witnessed the proceedings. The lord chancellor made an address to the jury to the effect usual on such occasions; and their lordships were invited to dine with the Goldsmith's company after the trial.

A great meeting of kings and potentates will take place on the Rhine in autumn. The Emperor of Russia will attend.

The official return of all monies repaid by her Majesty's government to the East India company, on account of the war in China, since the commencement of the war until the present time, is as follows:—1840, Oct. 27, £150,000; 1841, July 2, £400,000; 1842, Feb. 9, £23,442; total, £573,442.

During the short time Mr Abercrombie was master of the mint the silver coinage in threepenny, twopenny, and three-halfpenny pieces for the service of the West India colonies amounted to the total value of £10,015 10s. The amount of gold coined during the time Mr Labouchere was master of the mint amounted to £6,400,546. Silver coin during the same period, £1,399,503 12s. For circulation in the West India colonies, £71,016. Since Mr Gladstone has been appointed "master and worker" of her Majesty's mint, the total value of gold coined is £384,069. Silver coin, value £40,590.

The demand for silver at the bank for the last week has been greater than ever known, and it is with difficulty the public can procure it.

The *Gazette* of Friday contains the proclamation of the issue of "half-farthings," every such piece having for the obverse impression "our effigy, with the inscription, 'Victoria D. G. Britanniar. Regina F. D.,' and for the reverse the words 'Half-farthing,' with the date of the year, surmounted by the royal crown; and below, the united emblem of the rose, thistle, and shamrock; provided that no person shall be obliged to take more of such pieces in any one payment than shall be of the value of sixpence."

It is understood on the Stock exchange, that no allowance will be made for the income tax in any dealings in exchequer bills. This was always the method adopted in sales of stock, but it will be for the first time applied to the unfunded securities.

The royal assent was given to the Property-tax bill on Friday last, so that the people of Great Britain are now subject to that tax.

It is rumoured that the Navy board is to be revived; but instead of a comptroller it is to have a chairman, for which Rear-admiral Ross is named.

The *Times*, in its city article of Friday, says:—Instances are now of almost daily occurrence in which the annoyance the public are made to undergo by the late proclamation, and the general distrust respecting the gold coin, is aggravated by the conduct of the bank of England. The annexed letter, from one of the most extensive business houses in the city, may be taken as a sample of them:—"A clerk from our house yesterday tendered at the bank of England £150 in sovereigns and half-sovereigns. They rejected as light 50 sovereigns and 5 half-sovereigns. On carefully weighing the whole, it appeared to me that three only out of the 50 were at all short of weight. The inconvenience to the public from this wholesale system of rejection being a very serious one, I determined to investigate the matter. Taking them myself, therefore, to the bank of England, I first tendered 10 of the sovereigns, and they were taken without objection. I then explained the cause of my application, and requested that the whole should be weighed. They were so, and all were taken, except 14 sovereigns and 1 half-sovereign—that is to say, 35 sovereigns and 4 half-sovereigns were taken to-day when carefully weighed which had been refused yesterday. Of the 14 now rejected, I believe 12 to be full weight.

The committee appointed on the motion of Mr Roebuck, and called the Election Proceedings Committee, assembled on Wednesday afternoon at one o'clock, the whole of the members comprising it being present—namely, Mr Roebuck, Mr W. Patten, Sir William Somerville, Mr Lascelles, Mr E. Yorke, Mr Bramston, Mr Hawes, Mr Strutt, and Lord Worsley. The case of each borough respecting which an inquiry is to be gone into will be proceeded with in the order in which it is mentioned in the preamble of the Witnesses' Indemnity bill. The following is the order in which the boroughs stand in the preamble:—Harwich, Nottingham, Lewes, Penryn and Falmouth, Bridport, and Reading. At half-past two o'clock the committee adjourned till Friday. During the deliberations of the committee, "strangers" were not admitted into the room, and it was understood that they would be excluded at every future sitting of the committee.

The committee, appointed on the motion of Mr W. O. Stanley to investigate the proceedings at the last election for Southampton, met on Friday at one o'clock for the despatch of business. The Honourable Stuart Wortley in the chair.

COMPLETE SUFFRAGE MOVEMENT.

The usual weekly meeting of the National Complete Suffrage Union took place at the society's rooms, in Waterloo street, Birmingham, on Monday last, the vice-president in the chair, when the following business was transacted:—

The secretary reported that he had forwarded the appointment to the Rev. Mr Solly, and to Mr Clarke, as lecturers.

It was reported that 500 copies of the following amended address to the electors of Southampton had been printed, with the view of being forwarded to them forthwith:—

"To the Electors of the Borough of Southampton."

"The council of the National Complete Suffrage Union, trust that the deep interest they feel in all that concerns the freedom and happiness of their country, and their earnest desire to promote all peaceful and Christian movements against oppression, vice, and ignorance, will form a sufficient explanation of their motive in addressing you.

"Your borough will shortly be called upon to discharge a most responsible duty, by electing men to represent it in parliament; and if ever there was a time when caution was needed, this is that time.

"Our country is in a deplorable position; our trade is declining; our shopkeepers are sinking in circumstances; our industrious population either want employment or are badly remunerated for the labour they perform; many of our worthy citizens are emigrating to foreign lands.

"Monopoly has placed its talons upon the throat of industry; heavy debts and taxes, consequent upon bloody and unchristian war, exhaust the nation's energies. Ecclesiastical despotism reigns triumphant. The mass of the people, shut out from all constitutional existence, are socially, morally, and intellectually prostrate.

"We have thought long and painfully on these subjects. We are firmly convinced that the only political reform that can really save the nation, is a reform that shall secure to the people a full, fair, and free representation in the House of Commons.

"We believe that until such a reform takes place, oppression and misery will continue to increase. Earnestly, therefore, do we appeal to you to give effect to this opinion, by refusing to vote for any candidate, unless he pledges himself to support in parliament the great principle, that, 'Every man of twenty-one years of age, who has not been deprived of his rights of citizenship, in consequence of a verdict of a jury of his countrymen, is entitled to the elective franchise.'

"In support of this principle we implore the really liberal electors to unite themselves together, and no longer to be the instruments of faction. The return of any merely party man will inflict serious injury upon the cause of freedom.

"The time for compromise is past. The friends of real reform are everywhere rallying. Let Southampton do its duty, and it will add vigour to a movement which we are persuaded will not end until the people are invested with their full political rights. Signed in the name and on behalf of the council,

JOSEPH STURGE, President.

"Birmingham, 6th Month, 24th, 1842."

The following letter was read from Sir James Graham to Lord Brougham:—

"Whitehall, June 4, 1842."

"MY LORD—I have the honour to inform your lordship that I have not failed to lay before the Queen, a memorial very numerous signed on the subject of what is therein called 'class legislation,' which memorial was transmitted by your lordship to the Home department, for presentation to her Majesty.

"I have the honour to be, my lord,

"Your lordship's very obedient servant,

"JAS GRAHAM."

Mr Collins presented a report of his journey to Newcastle-upon-Tyne, on the subject of bribery at the late election for that borough:

"Upon my arrival at Newcastle, I went to Mr —, the printer, to give him an order to print the addresses. I found him a determined supporter of Mr Harris, whom he said he believed to be a very ill used man, inasmuch as he was unseated by a committee of the House of Commons in consequence of bribery—as he, Mr —, said Newcastle

was such a placethat no man could be returned as member from thence without bribery, and the instances in which it had been resorted to by Mr Harris, had been comparatively few. He further informed me that the people of Newcastle had opposed the Reform bill, and were not favourable to an extension of the elective franchise at the present time—and that, in his opinion, the publishing of that address would injure the cause of Mr Harris: he therefore refused to print, and earnestly desired me to abandon the idea of issuing such an address as Mr Harris was a very liberal man. Finding a difficulty in getting the addresses printed in Newcastle, I went to Hanley, where I got them printed, and was, through the kindness of some friends, introduced to some few persons at Newcastle, favourable to the principles of full, fair and free representation, from whom I obtained much information, and was by them assured that they did not believe there were twenty electors in the whole borough that would vote for a candidate who might come forward on that principle independently of bribery, for that many of the freemen boasted of having been born free, and taunted those who had not votes, and considered every extension of the franchise as a depreciation of the privileges they were born to enjoy (viz, that of getting the most they could for their votes); these friends appeared very desirous that the council of the Complete Suffrage Union should send a lecturer, and they said they would provide a place for him to lecture in, and also be at the expense of giving public notice of the lecture."

The epitome of statutes relating to political societies, with practical directions for avoiding their infringement, as finally corrected and amended by Daniel O'Connell, Esq., M.P., was passed, and directions given for its being printed, with a view to general circulation. The following is a copy:—

Epitome of Statutes affecting political Societies, with practical suggestions for avoiding their infringement.

The following acts are illegal:—

1. To belong to any society in which any member shall take any oath or engagement, or shall take, subscribe, or assent to, any test or declaration not required or authorised by law, as connected with membership.

2. To belong to any society in which any committee, delegate, representative, or missionary, shall be employed to meet, confer, or communicate with any other society, or to induce any person to become member of such other society.

3. To belong to any society which intentionally conceals the name of any member or of any committee or select body, or of any officer, such as chairman, treasurer, secretary, &c., from the rest of the members, or from any member.

4. To belong to any society which does not keep a book or books, in which the names of all the members, and of all committees or select bodies and all the officers are entered, open to the inspection of all the other members and officers.

5. To belong to any society composed of different branches or divisions acting separately from each other.

6. To belong to any society having any chairman, secretary, or other officer appointed to any separate branch or division.

The following acts are not illegal:

1. It is not illegal to form a society on stipulated and avowed principles of action, such as for Complete Suffrage, for the Ballot, in short for all or any of the six points. The agreement on these principles is not on oath or engagement, test, or declaration, prohibited by law. Under this head therefore the "National Complete Suffrage Union" is a perfectly legal body.

2. It is not illegal for any society or any member or officer thereof, to meet, confer, communicate, or correspond with any individual or individuals however numerous, so that such conferring communication or correspondence be not with any organised body: it is correspondence or communication between organized bodies that is prohibited. In order to prevent an infraction of the law in this respect, no letter should be written by or to any person in an official character as secretary or otherwise.

3. In order to obviate the difficulty as to the appointment of a delegate or delegates whenever such appointment may become necessary, a public meeting may be called by some individuals for the sole purpose of appointing such delegate or delegates, who will thereby become the representative or representatives, not of the society, but of such meeting which should be immediately dissolved after the particular business for which it is convened is dispatched. It is not, however, illegal for any society to appoint delegates or representatives to meet, communicate, or correspond with any persons desirous of forming an association, and to assist in conducting their proceedings the moment the society is formed, but such assistance must cease before such society is actually formed, and it is not illegal for any one to say in any association, or in the council of any association anything he pleases, as a member of the council or association he is addressing, provided he is not and does not take upon himself the character of a delegate or representative of any other society.

4. It is necessary that the names of all the members and officers of any society should be entered in books kept for that purpose, which books should be open to the inspection of all the members. The accidental or unintentional omission, however, of any name or names where such omission is not for the purpose of concealment, would not be punishable.

5. It is not illegal to have members of the N. C. S. Union in the various towns and localities, but they must act as being members of the general body. They, as individuals, can safely correspond with the Union. They can enroll members either in the N. C. S. Union, or their own local society, or both; they may collect subscriptions, procure signatures to memorials or petitions, and generally transact the business of the N. C. S. Union, as well as of their own local society, in the district or place in which each member may happen to reside.

6. It is not illegal to have a Complete Suffrage Association in every town and locality, but every such association must be single or separate not connected with the N. C. S. Union or any other association, save in community of action so far as the object is the same. Any person, however, may be a member of the N. C. S. Union, and also a member of any local society at the same time, provided the belonging to the N. C. S. Union be not made a condition or test of membership in order to belong to the local society.

A letter was read from the *Worcestershire Chronicle* office, express-

ing their willingness and desire to report the weekly proceedings of the Union.

An address to the inhabitants of Milborne Port, enclosed in a communication from Mr Charles Clarke, was laid on the table.

Letters were read from London, Edinburgh, Glasgow, and Nottingham, at which places the friends of complete suffrage are making arrangements to hold public meetings.

Applications for cards of membership had been received since the last meeting from Bristol, Ludlow, Kidderminster, Market Harborough, and Aberdeen.

The city of London members' National Association held their usual weekly meeting at the Globe Coffee-house, on Tuesday, the 21st inst. Mr Davis in the chair. The minutes of the last meeting having been read and confirmed, and new members admitted, Mr Lovett reported that the committee had had bills printed announcing that the "Hall of the National Association" would be opened on Monday, July 25th, with a festival, that Mr Leader, M.P., would occupy the chair, and that arrangements had been entered into for securing the services of professional gentlemen for the entertainment of the company with singing glees, &c., appropriate for the occasion. A series of sentiments, drawn up by the committee, to be submitted on that occasion, was read, and, on the motion of Messrs Hetherington and Lutzky, adopted. Application having been made on behalf of the Complete Suffrage Union for the use of the hall, it was agreed that they should have the hall for the first meeting after the festival. The adjourned discussion on "The best means of uniting the middle and working classes" was adjourned until next meeting, to be opened by Mr Peat.

The Knightsbridge Complete Suffrage Union held its weekly meeting on Wednesday evening last, at Thornton's Coffee house. Mr Watts, of Notting Hill, in the chair. After the transaction of the ordinary business of the association, on the motion of Messrs. Westerton and Brown, a vote of thanks was given to Mr Neesom, for his attendance to lecture that evening. Mr Neesom, in acknowledging the compliment, proposed the following question for discussion at the next meeting—"Would entire abstinence from intoxicating liquors tend to advance social and political reform?"

A most powerful lecture was delivered on Monday evening, to a full and respectable audience, in the chartist association room, Hyson Green, Nottingham, relative to the complete suffrage principles, by Mr T. Beggs. Nineteen individuals, comprising electors and non-electors, afterwards enrolled their names as members of the association.

At a late meeting of the provisional committee of the Glasgow Complete Suffrage Association, Mr Pattison in the chair, specimens of tickets and copies of the rules and regulations were submitted to the meeting and approved of. A large and respectable list of names was handed to the secretary for the sale of tickets; after which it was proposed by J. Roger, seconded by Mr McEwan, that tickets of membership be presented to the following gentlemen—viz., Joseph Sturge, John Collins, Wm. Morgan, and Arthur O'Neil, of Birmingham; Rev. T. Spencer, and Henry Vincent, Bath; John Childs, Bungay; Lawrence Heyworth, Liverpool; Richard Prentice, Manchester; Dr Ritchie, Edinburgh; John Mitchell, and James Adam, Aberdeen; Francis Place, William Weir, Wm. Lovett, the editor of the Non-conformist, London; and to W. S. Crawford and the other members of parliament who voted for his motion on complete suffrage. The committee have had several meetings since, at all of which the most satisfactory evidence has been given of the growing influence and popularity of the association.

At the second monthly meeting of the Kendal Complete Suffrage association, an efficient committee and suitable officers were appointed by ballot. A committee was also appointed to inquire into the feasibility of having a news room, in connection with the association. It was thought highly desirable that a room, solely for the use of the association, should be rented, which might serve not only for a news room, but also for the meetings of committees and of the association. Their report was ordered to be laid before the association next monthly meeting. A letter from W. S. Crawford, Esq., M.P., in reply to a vote of thanks passed to him at the last monthly meeting, was read and highly applauded. Seventeen new members joined the association. It was thought highly desirable, and calculated to produce great benefit to the complete suffrage cause, when its friends could meet together, and obtain so easily such encouraging information as might be had in a news room. A yearly subscription of three shillings, or a quarterly one of one shilling, would probably yield an amount sufficient to provide a number of newspapers, &c.; and it was thought that by fixing the terms so low, many persons who do not see eye to eye with the members of the association would join, in order to read the news. It might serve the cause in many places if efforts were made to secure news rooms in connection with associations. It is really astonishing to find so much opposition and attempted discouragement from the Whigs—self-styled liberals. In elections the working men were called out and encouraged to believe that in helping the Whigs they were helping their friends. Now, when the just claims of the working millions are advanced—claims which these expediency-mongers dare not, cannot, deny—the true nature of their promised friendship appears. It is all on one side, and that their own. Surely the lessons which non-electors have had will lead them to refuse to be any longer used by either of the two great factions.

A meeting of the Cupar Complete Suffrage Association took place on Tuesday last. Mr George Brunton in the chair. The minutes of the previous meeting, and the names of those persons who had joined the association since last meeting were read. The following individuals were then called on to address the meeting:—Wm. Niven, compositor, on liberty; Wm. Inglis, compositor, on some of the means tending to the mind's cultivation; Alex. Tullis, weaver, on the duty of a representative; and Wm. Brown, pressman, on the miseries of war. After which an address, to be presented to the electors of Nottingham, was proposed by Wm. Smart, weaver, seconded by Charles Lees, manufacturer, and agreed to unanimously, expressing a hope that the electors would wipe out the stain of corruption from their burgh by electing Joseph Sturge as their representative. We cannot but remark that we consider the high tone of feeling displayed, and the excellent talent and unexceptionable spirit of the addresses, [as] calculated to produce great and beneficial results.—*Fife Herald*.

LITERATURE.

Brief Notices of Hayti; with its Condition, Resources, and Prospects. By JOHN CANDLER. London: Ward and Co.

HAYTI, the *ci-devant* St Domingo, is just now a subject of deep and painful interest—the announcement in the newspapers of "Ten thousand lives lost by an Earthquake" carries the imagination to a scene of most agonising devastation and death—the sudden and terrible visitation of a mysterious providence. It will somewhat relieve the feelings of our readers when we assure them that the calamity, though sufficiently appalling, must be greatly exaggerated in the accounts of it which have yet reached us. After giving a brief notice of the geography of Hayti, we will introduce Mr Candler's statement of the scite, population, and the condition of the town of Haytien, when he sojourned there at the latter part of the year 1840. The island of Hayti, formerly Hispaniola or St Domingo, placed between 18 and 20 degrees north latitude, and from 68 to 75 degrees west, has a length of 360 miles from east to west, and breadth varying from 60 to 120 miles. Its circumference, measured by an even line, excluding the bays, is nearly a thousand miles. It is situated at the entrance of the Gulf of Mexico; is one of the four larger Antilles, and holds the second rank after Cuba, from which it is distant only twenty leagues. Jamaica lies westward of it about forty leagues; and Porto Rico, a large and now populous island belonging to Spain, twenty two leagues eastward. On the north are the Bahama islands, at a distance of two or three days sail; and southward separated by 700 miles of ocean, is the great continent of South America. Hayti presents the aspect of a large territory composed of mountains and plains, watered by a few extensive unnavigable rivers and innumerable streams; it abounds in forests of mahogany wood and other fine timber; affords a great variety of climate; and displays a grandeur and beauty of scenery; not surpassed in the tropical regions of the New World, or perhaps of the globe itself. Like all the other islands of this region, it is subject to awful tempests, known by their Indian name of hurricanes, and is liable to frequent shocks of earthquakes. The latter formidable phenomenon in 1564, destroyed the newly-founded city Concepcion de la Vega, and has occasioned at several different and distant periods, the overthrow or disturbance of Port au Prince, its present capital. The city of Cape Haytien stands on the north-east side of a bay, semicircled by hills of great elevation, such as in most countries would be called mountains. In former days, under the French dominion, this was considered as the handsomest town of all the West Indies, and the most flourishing. It is still as large as ever, but half of it is in ruins; the public buildings and a large number of the houses having been battered down by cannon and musquetry, or destroyed by fire during the wars of the revolution, never yet have been rebuilt. The pavement of some of the streets was broken up during the same dismal strife, or has since that period been ploughed up by the torrents which have come down from the mountains. The *toute-ensemble* of the town from these causes has somewhat of a melancholy aspect, and gives the stranger at first view an unfavourable and rather gloomy impression. Its front towards the sea is nearly a mile in length; and its breadth, backward to the hills, about three quarters of a mile. Making allowance for all irregularities, Cape Haytien may be described as a city having twenty-seven streets, running east and west, crossed at right angles by nineteen others from north to south, containing what once were good houses, some of them magnificent, of two and three stories, built of brick or stone, and covered with slates, tiles, and mahogany or pine shingles. A wide gutter runs through the middle of each principal street, and conveys the mountain rains from the hills to the sea. The basement story of many of the houses is occupied in stores, warehouses, and stables; the upper part only being furnished as a residence for the family. The population in 1789 amounted to 18,500; the present number of the inhabitants, including the small garrison, is supposed to be about 9,000. During the military rule of Christophe, whom everybody when speaking of him designates not as king, but as Monsieur, Cape Haytien was the capital of the island. This remarkable and very ambitious man began here the erection of a palace for himself, which was left unfinished at his death, and which now lies a desolation, as if to scoff at the pride of kingship, and level distinctions in the dust. Mr Candler gives an interesting account of the public buildings in the city of Cape Haytien, and some pleasing traits in the character of its inhabitants:—

"We had no reason," he says, "to suppose from anything we saw or heard that much destitution or extreme poverty prevails. There is in the negro race a spirit of kindness not common to barbarous or half-civilised nations. Such is the testimony of Mungo Park and other African travelers; and a disposition to help others is fostered in this country by the influence of the Roman catholic religion, which teaches its votaries to rely on good works as the ground of justification, and as meriting an eternal reward."

If such good practice follows from such bad doctrine, it only proves that any religion is better than none; and that the worst form of Christianity, by revealing a life to come, contains so much virtue that it must produce some beneficial social results. Mr Candler affords a striking instance of "the disposition" of the Haytiens, "to help others."

"A few days before our arrival at the Cape, a ship from Bremen with a hundred and seventy German emigrants, bound for New Orleans had been wrecked at Point Isabella, and driven on shore in a heavy gale of wind. No lives were lost; much damage was sustained, but the passengers and the crew were brought in safety to the Cape. The news of their arrival—strangers in a strange land, speaking an unknown tongue, dejected careworn, much of their little property lost in the wreck, some of them sick, and nearly all without food, aroused the feelings of these good people, and awakened the liveliest sympathy. No consul of their own nation to protect them, they might have perished of hunger, but for the generous assistance of all classes of the citizens. The authorities, all black or coloured

men, ordered houses to be opened for their reception, into which beds and moveables were conveyed, medical men proffered their assistance, and the inhabitants supplied them with food, and clothing. We passed through some of the buildings where they were placed, and were cheered to witness the alacrity with which they were served. Their sorrows were soon soothed by these kind attentions, and some of them foregoing the pleasure which they had promised themselves in an early meeting with their friends in Louisiana, who had left their fatherland before them, made arrangements for a temporary sojourn in Hayti, where work at fair wages was promised them, and where they had found an asylum in distress. There are no poor-laws in Hayti, assistance to the poor is voluntary, and from the abundance and cheapness of provisions, a small quantity of silver goes a great way."

So blacks after all are the children of humanity—emancipate them from the curse of slavery, and they can form themselves into states, carry on the affairs of government, enter upon an interminable course of social improvements, and exhibit the fairest virtues that adorn the character of man. Had Haytien been in its state of social degradation, when the whole population only exhibited human depravity in its different shades and consisted only of monsters of cruelty and their debased victims, we should have received the intelligence of an earthquake swallowing up two-thirds of them with the emotions of men awed by such a tremendous evidence that "there is a God that judgeth in the earth." But in the present instance while our hearts are impressed with the same convictions, we are conscious of sympathies and regrets of a very different nature, when we in vain attempt to realise the description of a catastrophe which swept a whole city of humanised, industrious, and virtuous freemen, and multitudes of sincere and devout Christians from the land of the living; and our souls thrill with horror when we read of survivors in other places, that have severely suffered from the same cause, saying, "It seems to us that we walk upon a quaking earth." As the number of inhabitants at Haytien did not exceed 9,000, 10,000 could not have perished. Gonaives, another place visited and described by Mr Candler, suffered severely by the same calamity. Could he return to these scenes of his travel where benevolence and religion detained him as a missionary employed in the distribution of religious books, and conversing with the people, how greatly would he be shocked! His book, scarcely three months old, and relating to affairs of yesterday, is a record of things gone by, that will never return.

In his introduction, Mr Candler informs us that his view of the present state of Hayti he intended to have been accompanied by a brief sketch of the history of the island. This design, however, he relinquished. He tells us that "the history of Hayti has yet to be written; nor can it be written impartially, so as to establish the truth, and the whole truth, till the present generation shall have passed away." Those who have read Harriet Martineau's "The Man and the Hour," and whose admiration was excited at the patriotic achievements and deep sympathy in the sufferings and fate of Toussaint L'Ouverture, will learn with regret that in a forthcoming history of Hayti, written by the present secretary of state, General Inginac, the character of that great man, as a leader in the revolutionary struggle, will not come out of the crucible of impartial history with all that brightness and purity that some modern narratives—half-history, half-romance—seem to assign to it. The author has not only the natural antipathy to war which belongs to a member of the society of Friends, but he has so familiarised himself with its evils and its horrors, that he can scarcely mention a hero, patriot though he be, without some qualifying, or rather disparaging remarks. "Toussaint," it seems, "was not free from many of the blemishes which attach to warriors." He has our hearty concurrence in the following passage:—

"The lines of Pope are become an axiom, and are often quoted as decisive with regard to men who are engaged in the dismal work of slaughtering their fellows:—

"All heroes are alike—the points agreed,
From Macedonia's madman to the Swede."

And it is remarkable to observe, as a confirmation of the poet's doctrine, which is true to a certain extent, that the character of Hannibal, as penned by the severe and vigorous hand of Juvenal, has been accommodated by Dr Johnson in his "Vanity of Human Wishes," to represent the life and exploits of Charles the Twelfth; and that the portrait drawn of the latter, might, with the omission of a line or two, and the change of half a dozen words, be made literally to apply to Napoleon Buonaparte. If there be any exception to Pope's apothegm in modern days, that exception may undoubtedly be made in favour of Washington and Toussaint. But those great men who act in a public contest, where the passions of a whole people are stirred up and roused into revengeful activity, however mild they may be by nature, and however disposed to act with mercy, often contract the stains that attach to the party they embrace, or the cause in which they embark, and exhibit in their conduct more than a common frailty. The civil wars of Hayti are now ended; and happy would it be for humanity's sake if we could draw the curtain of night on the many dark transactions that disgraced the period of their progress! The people of that country, however, have learned from them an awful lesson; and this one good consequence has resulted, that the republic, weary of contending with the sword, is now desirous of keeping it sheathed in the scabbard, and of maintaining an honourable and lasting peace."

Of the character of the government and the civil institutions of Hayti, the testimony of Mr Candler is most flattering. Here a republic appears to the best advantage.

"Let not the white man, in the pride of his complexion, look down with disdain upon these black republicans. There are men in office in the island of Hayti, both black and coloured, who would bear comparison with men of the same class in any part of the world."

It may be easily imagined that the slavery which still exists is viewed by the Haytians with a natural and consistent abhorrence. This secured for Mr Candler a cordial welcome among them.

"A feeling of sympathy for the past wrongs of Hayti, and for the negro still held in unrighteous bondage in many parts of the western world, bound us together in a common cause and a grateful companionship; often did we congratulate each other (friends from Boston) on what we saw of the freedom and physical happiness of those who were once slaves in this land, but who are oppressed no longer. Nor did we omit often to advert to that debasing servitude in which millions of the negro race are still held in the

United States, by a people calling themselves Christians, and boasting of their country as the freest on earth! What a mockery of religion was once the conduct of Great Britain towards the slaves in her colonies; what a mockery of religion is the present conduct of America; and what a lie to the declaration of her federal constitution, that all men by nature are free and equal. The single circumstance that we were all sincere haters of the abominable system of slavery in all its forms, and under every modification, ensured us a cordial reception in Hayti, and made our stay there, so far as it depended on the authorities and the good wishes of the people, highly agreeable to us."

Mr Candler acted wisely and well in his vocation as a missionary—a quaker missionary—quiet, but persuasive, and of untiring, though unostentatious, zeal. Christians to whom the missionary enterprise is dear—and they cannot be Christians who are indifferent to it—will read with pleasure our closing extract from this very unpretending but instructive volume.

"Satan, the grand deceiver, wears in this land of moral darkness a four-fold face—infidelity, ignorance, heathen superstition, and a religion (as taught by many of the priests) of folly and lies. One or other of these qualities may be said to frown in every quarter. The sight is appalling; but nothing will terrify the devoted follower of Christ, or deter him from endeavouring to convert his deluded fellow men from blindness and error. The pure and peaceable principles of the gospel have won their way in regions darker than this, and will yet prevail even here. The influence and success of protestant missions is not at first to be judged of by the number only of those persons who attend at a stated religious service. The missionary mingles with the people out of doors, converses familiarly with them, distributes tracts, bestows useful books, settles differences, and gives encouragement to the well-disposed; his wife helps him in his labour of love to the people, joins him in setting a good example, and shows many acts of kindness and assistance towards her own sex. Not putting their light under a bushel, but on a candlestick, they give light to their neighbours around them, and win them gradually to examine and see for themselves what the root is from which these Christian virtues spring. Faith bids us to believe that true Christianity will yet make its way, by its own resistless energy, and the blessing of its divine author, through every region of the globe."

The Vicar's Lantern. Numbers 1 and 2. Rochdale: Jesse Hall. London: W. Strange, Paternoster row.

This is a little penny periodical, established principally for the benefit of the Rochdale parishioners, but well worthy of a wider circulation. The title of it is a happy one, and points out at once the character of its contents. It is, in fact, a light kindled to disperse ecclesiastical darkness, and serving to aid the reader in more minutely inspecting the pompous pretensions of vicars, rectors, bishops, archdeacons, curates, *et id genus omne*. We wish there were a vicar's lantern in every considerable parish of the kingdom, and we cordially wish this effort all the success which, we think, it deserves.

1. *Literary Scientific Institution.* Staines. Conclusion of fifth season.
2. *Sixth Report for 1840, 1841.*

THE Rev. Dr Jones, vicar of Bedford, Middlesex, is the life and soul of this institution. His lectures are among the most valuable and eloquent that, during eight sessions have been delivered to its members. The first of the pamphlets before us, is a report of his concluding speech delivered on the 15th June, 1839. The second is a mere report of the proceedings of the institution during the period announced. On the former occasion, Dr Jones uttered the memorable sentence which follows—and he seems determined to merit it by the efforts of each succeeding year; "No jealousy can tarnish, no oblivion wipe away the remembrance of the trial made among you to elevate the popular mind, and raise the local character. The winds will, in the appointed time, scatter over my grave the leaves of the peacock yew-trees of Bedford church yard. Be it so. I desire no truer, prouder inscription on my tombstone than this—"The friend of popular knowledge based on the Bible." It is a memorial that shall endure. This man is not a mere parson—neither a spiritual, vegetable, nor a clerical cormorant—but a man who has a heart, and whose heart is in the right place.

Aristocratic Taxation: its Present State, Origin, and Progress, with Proposals for Reform. London: Ridgway and Sons.

A PAMPHLET ably written, and maintaining the soundest principles, *e. g.* "God has made man an independent, moral being, whose thoughts and feelings, motives and responsibilities, are peculiar to himself alone;" and by this we know the divine purpose, that each man should be the sole proper judge of his own interest, the sole proper agent of his own conduct, and the sole proper disposer of his own faculties and powers, and their fruits, so long as he infringe not the same right in others; by this we know that all thought should be uncontrolled, all labour disenthralled, all the fruits of labour secured to it, and all exchanges of these fruits

"Free as the light,
As broad and general as the casing air,
Not cabin'd, cribb'd, confin'd, bound in, as now."

There are no other divine rights but these; first, private judgment; next, free labour; third, security of property—the fruits of labour; and, last, entire freedom of enterprise and trade—all rights denied to the commonwealth by aristocratic legislation. Aristocratic legislation!

"What centuries of unjust deeds are here!"

LIST OF PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

1. *Independent Magazine*, May and June.
2. *The Slavery of Intemperance.*
3. *The Vicar's Lantern.*
4. *The Duty of the Christian in Reference to the Drunkard.*
5. *British and Foreign Review.*
6. *Moffatt's Missionary Labours in South Africa.*
7. *Salvation Considered.*

MARRIAGES.

June 22, at the friends' meeting house, Castlegate, York, Mr ABRAHAM SEWELL, grocer, Malton, to Mrs HANNAH BRADY, of that city.
June 22, at the primitive methodist chapel, Mill street, Hull, by the Rev. W. Clowes, the Rev. SAMUEL GEE, primitive methodist minister, of Sheffield, to Miss MARY ANN RADMALE, of Hull.
June 23, at Denmark place chapel, Camberwell, by the Rev. Edward Steane, WEDD WILLIAMS NASH, Esq., of Royston, to SARAH, only daughter of Joseph GUTTERIDGE, Esq., of Denmark hill.

DEATHS.

June 25, in London, where he was staying for medical advice, aged 40, HENRY STURGE, of Bewdley.
June 20, in his 90th year, the Rev. WILLIAM HOWELL. He was born at Kidderminster: educated by the Rev. Robert Gentleman, of Shrewsbury; went to Knaresborough in 1779, where he continued his pastorate over the independent congregation in that town for the protracted period of 56 years.
June 21, at the residence of Sir Charles Morgan, Bart, 70, Pall mall, after a short illness, the Right Hon. GEORGE LORD RODNEY, in the 61st year of his age. He is succeeded in his title and estates by his next brother, the Hon. Thomas James Harley Rodney.

TRADE AND COMMERCE.

LONDON GAZETTE.

Friday, June 24.

BANKRUPTS.

BATSTONE, JOHN, now or late of 190, Tooley street, Southwark, builder, to surrender July 1, August 5: solicitor, Mr Teague 5, Crown court, Cheapside.

BILTON, WALTER, jun., Kingston-upon-Hull, wine, spirit and porter merchant, July 6, August 5: solicitors, Messrs Hicks and Marris, 5, Gray's inn square, London, and Messrs Galloway and Co., Hull.

FISHER, JOHN and GEORGE HENRY, Manchester, Manchester warehousemen, July 14, August 5: solicitors, Messrs Johnson and Co., Temple, London, and Mr Hitchcock, Manchester.

GIBSON, GEORGE, Liverpool, stock and share broker and commission agent, July 5, August 5: solicitors, Messrs Holden and Clarke, Exchange, Liverpool, and Messrs Walmsley and Co., Chancery lane, London.

GOODE, WILLIAM, Monmouth, draper, June 29, August 5: solicitors, Mr Berkeley, 52, Lincoln's inn fields, London, and Mr Percy, Monmouth.

HARTNELL, MARK ANTHONY, Rodborough, Gloucestershire, common carrier, July 5, August 5: solicitors, Mr A. J. Baylie, Devonshire square, London, and Messrs Winterbotham and Thomas, Tewkesbury.

HILTON, EDWARD, and WALSH, NATHANIEL, Over Darwen, Lancashire, paper makers, July 13, August 5: solicitors, Messrs Milne and Co., Temple, London, and Messrs Neville and Co., Blackburn.

LIFE, SARAH, Chorlton-upon-Medlock, Lancashire, milliner, July 14, August 5: solicitors, Mr T. B. Bunting, Manchester, and Messrs Bower and Back, Chancery lane, London.

NEVINS, PIM, Leeds, cloth manufacturer, July 8, August 5: solicitors, Mr C. Fiddle, Inner Temple, London, and Messrs Barr and Co., Leeds.

SANDERSON, JAMES, Crawshaw Booth, Lancashire, cotton manufacturer, July 16, August 5: solicitors, Mr J. Grave, Manchester, and Messrs Johnson and Co., Temple, London.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

ALLAN, THOMAS and GEORGE BLAIR, Glasgow, builders, June 30, July 21.

FARQUHAR, ALEXANDER, Peterhead, ironmonger, June 29, July 20.

NICHOL, JAMES and DAVIDSON, Montrose, booksellers, June 30, July 21.

REID, ALEXANDER, Cromarty, fish curer, June 25, July 23.

STEWART, CHARLES HUNTER, Edinburgh, commission agent, June 30, July 21.

STEWART, JAMES, Loak, grazier, July 1, 22.

THOMSON, DAVID, Dairy mills, near Edinburgh, corn merchant, June 29, July 20.

DIVIDENDS.

July 15, Nutt, Stratford green, Essex, merchant—July 15, Phene, 17, Fleet street, City, law bookseller—July 18, Walker, Great St Helen's, City, India rubber manufacturer—July 18, Jones, 210, New road, Whitechapel road, stationer and rag merchant—July 26, Standley, Birmingham, brass founder—August 16, Cozens, Canterbury, builder—July 18, Baldry, jun., late of Bury St Edmund's, Suffolk, and then of Ipswich, innkeeper—July 18, Webb, Birmingham, tailor—July 15, R. and J. Buggein, Liverpool, sugar refiners—July 18, Watson, Manchester, muslin manufacturers—July 18, Wise and Co., Newton Abbott and Totnes, Devonshire, bankers—July 18, Cockburn, New Broad street, City, merchant.

CERTIFICATES—JULY 15.

Eastwood, Halifax, Yorkshire, late innkeeper—Carr, Sunderland, Durham, merchant—Bourne, Birmingham, woollen draper—Hildick, Walsall, Staffordshire, miller—Cozens, Canterbury, builder—M. and M. S. Schlesinger, 64, Basinghall street, City, merchants—H. Mackay, Liverpool, and A. F. Mackay, Glasgow, merchants—Settle and Bentley, Leeds, Yorkshire, flax spinners—Knight, Reading, Berkshire, brewer—W. H. H., and D. King, Old street road, and Horn's row, St Leonard, Shoreditch, Middlesex, coach builders—Taylor, Great Winchester street, City, merchant—Cooper, Lower Shadwell, Middlesex, brewer—Bishop, St Mary-axe, City, merchants.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Last and Clark—Baxter and Co., Birmingham and New South Wales—A. and J. Morris, Manchester, mercers—Pierce and Co., Liverpool, smiths (so far as regards R. Pierce)—Anderson and Shiell, Sherborne, drapers—G. S. T., and H. Rogers, Russia row, City, shirt makers (so far as regards G. S. Rogers)—Clark and Kettle, Wolverhampton, attorneys—Morville and Butterworth, Manchester, felt dealers—Gillespies and Co., Montreal, Quebec, and London—S. W., and B. Musgrave, dyers (so far as regards W. Musgrave)—Berry and Williams, Liverpool, drapers—Matthews and Martyn, Broadcliff, Devonshire, paper makers—Guthrie and Co., Gun alley, Bermondsey street, Southwark, engineers—Gowen and Co., Kingston-upon-Hull, stone masons—Coats and Co., 11, Friday street, City, warehousemen—West and Bush, Taunton, Somersetshire, wine merchants—Parker and Harvey, 198, High street, Shoreditch, City, grocers.

Tuesday, June 28.

The following buildings are certified as places duly registered for solemnising marriages, pursuant to the act of 6 and 7 Wm IV., cap. 85:—
St Francis Xavier's catholic church, Broad street, Hereford. N. Lanwarne, superintendent registrar.

The baptist chapel, Hanslope, Buckinghamshire. W. Powell, superintendent registrar.

BANKRUPTS.

AIRD, JOHN SPARK, of East Herrington, Durham, cattle salesman, July 20, and August 9: solicitors, Messrs. Meggison and Co., 3, King's Road, Bedford Row, London, Messrs. Kidson and Son, Sunderland.

COLLISON, JOHN, 1, South Molton lane, and of 5, South Molton street, Middlesex, packing case maker, July 8, August 9: solicitors, Messrs Hoppe and Co., 3, Sun court, Cornhill.

FLOOD, JOHN, Dean street, Westminster, surgeon, July 5, August 9: solicitors, Messrs Watson and Wix, 2, Winchester buildings, Great Winchester street.

HOLLAND, JOHN, Chipping Wycombe, Buckinghamshire, cordwainer, leather dealer, banker, and bill broker, July 8, August 9: solicitor, Mr George Smith, 24, Golden square, London.

HOSKINS, JAMES, of Crocombe, Somersetshire, baker, July 12, and August 9: solicitors, Mr Edward Thomas Whittaker, 5, Gray's inn square, London, and Messrs Robins and Hobbs, Wells.

HUDSON, JOHN, sen., and HUDSON, JOHN, jun., Swallow place, Hanover square, curriers, July 7, August 9: solicitor, Mr Archibald Rosser, New Boswell court.

HUMPHREY, THOMAS, sen., and HUMPHREY, THOMAS, jun., of Kingston-upon-Hull, shipwrights, July 9, and August 9: solicitors, Messrs. Hicks and Marris, 5, Gray's inn square, London, and Mr Thomas Holden, Hull.

JANES, THOMAS, Hockliffe, Bedfordshire, farmer, July 11, August 9: solicitor, Mr Wright, 2, South square, Gray's inn.

OTLEY, MARY, St James street, Middlesex, milliner, July 9, August 9: solicitor, Mr Dome, Broad street buildings.

ROTHE, GEORGE EATON, 16, New Broad street, City, and of Victoria road, Pimlico, merchant, July 5, August 9: solicitor, Mr Bodmen, 24, Queen street, Cheapside.

STANE ROBERT and STANE RICHARD, of Coventry, ribbon manufacturers, July 4, and August 9: solicitors, Messrs. Austen and Hobson, Gray's inn, London, and Messrs. Troughton and Lea, or Mr Wilmot, Coventry.

WILLIAMS, THOMAS, Bristol, tailor and draper, July 4, August 9: solicitors, Messrs Poole and Gamlen, 3, Gray's inn square, London, and Messrs Andrew and James Livett, Bristol.

WOODMAN, THOMAS, Great Billington, Bedfordshire, farmer, July 5, August 9: solicitors, Mr Frederick Day, Hemel Hempstead, Herts., and Messrs W. and E. Dyne, 61, Lincoln's inn fields, London.

SCOTCH SEQUESTRATIONS.

MITCHELL, JAMES, Paisley, dyer, July 6, 29.

MOSS, JOHN THOMAS, Dundee, grocer, July 1, August 5.

PROUDFOOT, JAMES, Mucklaee, Perthshire, farmer, July 2, 30.

SYMON, DAVID, Inverness, painter, July 8, 29.

DIVIDENDS.

July 21, Cannabec, Camberwell green, Camberwell, bookseller—July 21, Harrison, 174, High Holborn, ironmonger—July 21, Gamauf, 30, Fetter lane, City, wholesale furrier—July 22, Carter, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, ironmonger—July 19, Williams, Pwllheli, Carnarvonshire, linen draper—August 1, Jackson, Birmingham, timber merchant—July 19, Colliason, Wakefield, Yorkshire, boat builder—July 19, J. T. and S. Major, Poole, upholsterers—July 19, Bedford, Hunslet Moor side, Yorkshire, cut-bear manufacturer—July 26, Wickham, Bristol, linen draper—July 20, Bonner, Thame, Oxfordshire, furniture broker—July 20, Massar, Kensington, near Liverpool, common brewer—July 29, Gidden, Farringdon, Berkshire, licensed victualler—July 29, Morris, Newport, Monmouthshire.

CERTIFICATES—JULY 19.

G. A. and B. J. Thompson, Wylam, Northumberland, iron founders—Brown, Shef-

field, merchant—Sloane, York, linen draper—Hancock, 17, Earl street, Blackfriars, London, and of 5, Paternoster row, London, coal merchant—Pyne, 3, Crooked lane chambers, London, provision dealer—Stringer, Great Yarmouth, Norfolk, wine merchant.

PARTNERSHIPS DISSOLVED.

Turner and Lennox, 24, Mark lane, City, custom house agents—W., R., and F. Fry, Liverpool, tea brokers (so far as regards William Fry)—Draper and Trendall, formerly of 4, Lower Acton street, St Pancras, and lately of Great Percy street, Amwell street, Middlesex, clock makers—Kipling and Taylor, Wood street, City, warehousemen—Smith and Co., 10, King street, Snow hill, City, engravers (so far as regards J. Smith)—Baylis and Freeth, Birmingham, pearl button manufacturers—Ridgway and Co., Stoke-upon-Trent, Staffordshire, iron-stone china manufacturers—Avery and Parker, formerly of 35, but lately of 44, Friday street, City, warehousemen—Ruddock and Silke, Nether Stowey, Somersetshire, surgeons—Jackson and Johnson 11, John street, Adelphi, Middlesex, attorneys—Black and Armstrong, Wellington street, North Strand, booksellers—Greening and Co., Bedford, and Manchester, Lancashire, wire drawers—Willis and Hadow, Scot's yard, Bush lane, City, wine merchants—Gaskell and Co., Park hall Colliery, Charnock Richard, Lancashire, coal masters (so far as regards Gaskell)—Pochin and Boyer, Ibstock and Donnington-on-the-Heath, Leicestershire, farmers—Vyse and Barron, Holbeach, Lincolnshire, surgeons—Meyer and Clark, 22, Bedford street, Covent garden, gold lacemen—Wooldridge and Southan Wednesfield heath, Staffordshire, miners—Sykes and Hartley, Aldam mill, Barnsley, Yorkshire, and late of Know hill, Derbyshire, corn millers—Angas and Milner, 2, Jeffrey's square, St Mary Axe, City, merchants—Smith and Meggy, 19, Roll's buildings, Fetter lane, engravers—S., J., and F. Thomas, Rochester, Kent, cabinet makers—Uyterlimmege and Borst, Liverpool, merchants—Atkinson and Maddison, Middlesbrough, Yorkshire, house joiners—Booker and Wright, Lenton, Nottinghamshire, lace manufacturers—Stone and Wakefield, Birmingham, wire workers—The Dee Bank Forge Company (so far as regards J. H. and J. Howell)—Osborn and Martins, Newgate market, meat salesmen—Garratt and Williams, Jermyn street, Haymarket, cabinet makers—S. and N. Smallpage, Burnley, Lancashire, drapers—Bartholomew and Co., Pavement, Finsbury, City, hearth rug manufacturers (so far as regards William Bartholomew).

BRITISH FUNDS.

The funds have been steady since our last, but there has not been much business transacted.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
3 per cent. Consols.....	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ditto for opening	91½	91½	91½	91½	91½	91½
3 per cents. Reduced	91½	91½	91½	91½	—	—
3½ per cents. Reduced	100½	100½	100½	100½	100½	100½
New 3½ per cent.	—	—	—	—	—	—
Long Annuities	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½	12½
Bank Stock	167	167½	167	—	167	167
India Stock	—	—	—	—	—	—
Exchequer Bills	45 pm	40 pm	45 pm	42 pm	42 pm	42 pm
India Bonds, 3 per cent.	23 pm	24 pm	—	25 pm	—	—

FOREIGN FUNDS.

Austrian	110½	Mexican	37½
Belgian	103	Peruvian	18
Brazilian	66	Portuguese 5 per cents	61½
Buenos Ayres	22	Ditto 3 per cents	22½
Columbian	25	Russian	113½
Danish	81½	Spanish Active	21½
Dutch 2½ per cents	52½	Ditto Passive	4½
Ditto 5 per cents	101	Ditto Deferred	10

SHARES.

Railways—		London and Brighton	35½
Birmingham and Derby	43	London and Croydon Trunk ..	13
Birmingham and Gloucester ..	50	London and Greenwich	6½
Blackwall	10	Ditto New	17½
Bristol and Exeter	42	Manchester and Birmingham ..	—
Cheltenham and Gt. Western	27½	Manchester and Leeds	80
Eastern Counties	9	Midland Counties	70
Edinburgh and Glasgow	48	Ditto Quarter Shares	24
Great North of England	—	North Midland	61
Great Western	88	Ditto New	34
Ditto New	60	South Eastern and Dover	25
Ditto Fifths	11	South Western	60½
London and Birmingham	177	Ditto New	10½
Ditto Quarter Shares	31½		

MARKETS.

GRAIN, MARK LANE, June 27.

There was but a moderate show of English wheat at market to-day; the millers took off the good runs at an advance of 1s. to 2s. per qr, and towards the close but little was left unsold. In free foreign or in bonded, in granary or afloat, there was not much business doing, but prices were maintained.

There was very little demand for barley, and prices are rather lower.

There was a good supply of oats for the time of the year. The sales were very slow at 6d. to 1s. per qr decline in all descriptions, and bonded were offering at rather a larger difference.

In beans and peas no alteration.

Wheat, Red New 52 to 60	Malt, Ordinary.. 45 to 53	Beans, Old..... 34 to 38
Fine	Pale	Harrow
White	Peas, Hog	Oats, Feed..... 18 .. 20
Fine	Maple	Fine
Rye	Boilers	Poland
Barley	Beans, Ticks.... 27 .. 38	Potato
Malting		

WEEKLY AVERAGE FOR

JUNE 24.

Wheat	63s. 10d.
Barley	26 10
Oats	21 6
Rye	36 10
Beans	33 9
Peas	32 6

AGGREGATE AVERAGE OF

SIX WEEKS.

Wheat	62s. 3d.
Barley	26 4
Oats	20 0
Rye	33 3
Beans	32 5
Peas	31 10

DUTY ON FOREIGN CORN FOR

THE PRESENT WEEK.

Wheat	10s. 0d.
Barley	10 0
Oats	6 0
Rye	9 6
Beans	10 6
Peas	10 6

SEEDS.

Rapeseed was wanted for sowing, and small parcels are saleable at £45 per last. In linseed little doing. There was a sample of new brown mustard seed shown, of good quality and in fine dry condition, for which 15s. per bushel was demanded.

Linseed, English, sowing 50s. to 55s. per qr	Coriander	10s. to 16s. pr cwt.
Baltic, ditto	Old	16 .. 18
Ditto, crushing	Canary, new	75 .. 78
Mediter. and Odessa.. 50 .. 52	Extra	80 .. 88
Clover, English, red	Caraway, old	50 .. 52
Ditto, white	New	48 .. 52
Flemish, red	Mustard, brown, new 10 .. 15 pr bush.	
Ditto, white	White	9 .. 13
New Hamburgh, red	Trefoil	16 .. 35
Ditto, white	Rye grass, English... 30 .. 42	
Old Hamburgh, red	Scotch	18 .. 40
Ditto, white	Tares, winter	— .. — per qr.
French, red	New	4 .. 5 pr bush.
Ditto, white	Rapeseed, English, new 40l. .. 48l. pr last	
Hempseed, small	Linseed cakes, English 10l. 10s. to 11l.	
Large	Foreign	8l. to 8l. 10s.
	Rapeseed cakes	6l. 5s. to 6l. 10s.

PROVISIONS, LONDON, June 27.

There has been a better demand for Irish butter, chiefly arising from the short supply and the high price of foreign. Sales of Carrick, Clonmel, and Waterford have been made to a respectable extent at from 80s. to 84s., and of Cork and Limerick at 80s. to 82s. on board, and in proportion landed. Foreign has been in free sale; Friesland 98s. to 100s., Kiel 90s. to 95s. per cwt. For bacon the demand has been limited, the market dull, and the prices as last quoted not well supported. Bale and tierce middles not improved in demand or price. Lard and hams, no change worth notice. Beef and pork continue dull.

HOPS, BOROUGH, June 27.

The hop market has been less fluctuating since our last, and as the general advices from the plantations are considered more favourable, there is a disposition to back the duty rather higher, and we may therefore call it £130,000.

BUTCHER'S MEAT, SMITHFIELD, Monday, June 27.

The same dullness in trade continues. Butchers appear to attend the market more from curiosity, and as a customary duty, than for the purposes of trade. The supplies to-day were small of beasts, rather plentiful of sheep and lambs, and an ordinary number of calves and pigs. With some few exceptions the cattle were of fine quality, but failed to attract more than a partial attention. Everything sold heavily, and numbers remained on hand unsold.

Price per stone of 8lbs. (sinking the offal).

Beef	3s. 4d. to 4s. 6d.	Veal	3s. 8d. to 4s. 6d.
Mutton	3 4 4 4	Pork	4 0 5 0
Lamb	5s. 0d. to 6s. 0d.		

HEAD OF CATTLE AT SMITHFIELD.

	Beasts.	Sheep.	Calves.	Pigs
Friday	436	11,190	495	327
Monday	2,213	28,930	202	319

NEWGATE and LEADENHALL MARKETS, Monday, June 27.

Per 8lbs. by the carcase.			
Inferior Beef	3s. 0d. to 3s. 2d.	Inferior Mutton	3s. 6d. to 3s. 8d.
Middling ditto	3 2 3 4	Middling ditto	3 10 4 0
Prime large ditto	3 4 3 6	Prime ditto	4 0 4 2
Prime small ditto	3 8 3 10	Veal	3 8 4 2
Large lark	4 0 4 6	Small Pork	4 8 5 0
Lamb	5s. 0d. to 5s. 10d.		

WOOL, June 27.

There has been an abundant supply of wool at market, with plenty of buyers; yet, notwithstanding, the market was far from brisk, and the prices obtained last week could not be sustained.

Down ewes and wethers	0s. 0d. to 0s. 9d.	Half-bred hogs	0s. 0d. to 0s. 11d.
Down teggs	0 0 0 11	Flannel wool	0 8d. 0 11d.
Down wethers	0 0 0 9d.	Blanket wool	0 5 0 7d.
Down hogs	0 0 0 9d.		

HAY, SMITHFIELD, June 25.—At per load of 36 trusses.

Coarse Meadow Hay	55s. to 75s.	New Clover Hay	85s. to 120s.
New ditto	54 76	Old ditto	— —
Useful old ditto	80 84	Oat Straw	36 38
Fine Upland and Rye Grass	85 90	Wheat Straw	40 42

COAL EXCHANGE, June 27.

Stewart's, 21s.; Haswell, 20s. 9d.; Hetton's, 21s.; Tees, 20s. Ships arrived this week, 45.

GROCERIES, TUESDAY, JUNE 28.

TEA.—Several purchases were made, and more business would have been transacted if the market had been better supplied. Good common useful Congou cash sold at 1s. 9d. to 1s. 9d., common 1s. 8d., fair Twankay 1s. 8d., common 1s. 7d., and company's Congou 1s. 9d. per lb.

COFFEE.—There were several parcels of coffee brought to public sale, consisting of British plantation and Cape sorts; the former sold readily, while the latter were mostly bought in. Holders of foreign are firm, and supply the market sparingly; by private contract a fair business was transacted at 34s. to 35s. for good ordinary St Domingo, and ord. to good ord. Rio 33s. to 35s. per cwt.

SUGAR.—The market was in a tranquil state, the large arrivals causing the trade to come forward with caution, and the demand was limited at a reduction of 6d. per cwt.

TALLOW.—There was a fair amount of business transacted in the market at 48s. 3d. per cwt on the spot.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

THE DISSENTERS' AND GENERAL LIFE AND FIRE ASSURANCE COMPANY, empowered by special Act of Parliament, 3 Vic. c. 20. 62, King William street, London bridge, London; 21, St David street, Edinburgh; 6, King street, Queen square, Bristol; 153, Queen street, Glasgow.

Capital, One Million.

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ON the return of the Midsummer Quarter, the Directors beg leave to remind their Friends and the Public, that in the Fire Department they receive risks of all descriptions, including Chapels, School-rooms, Mills, Goods, and Shipping in Docks, Farming Stock, &c., at the same reduced rates as other respectable Companies; and make no charge on Policies transferred from other offices.

In the Life Department they continue to transact all business relating to Life Assurances, Annuities, and Family Endowments, upon the most liberal terms consistent with sound principles and public security.

The usual liberal Allowance made to Solicitors, Surveyors, and other Agents.

By order of the Board,

THOMAS PRICE, Secretary.

THE PERFECT SUBSTITUTE FOR SILVER.

Catalogue, with Engravings (gratis), Postage Free.—The celebrity of the rich and silvery appearance and extreme durability of the material, made exclusively by ourselves, has induced many attempts to foist upon the Public the notoriously deleterious German Silver under the guises of "Alba's Plate," "Berlin Silver," &c., &c.; against which we especially warn them. Aided by an eminent chemist, we have succeeded in purifying our material so that acids do not affect it; it is now so well known and appreciated that it is universally superseding silver in all its uses. The genuine metal, which is more durable than silver, can only be had at our warehouses. It is the same throughout, and can be engraved and made in all the various articles that are in silver, from which it can only be told by reference to the stamp.

Fiddle Threaded King's Pattern. Pattern. Pattern.

Table Spoons and Forks, full size, per dozen	12s. 0d.	28s. 0d.	30s. 0d.
Dessert ditto and ditto	10s. 0d.	21s. 0d.	25s. 0d.
Tea ditto and ditto	5s. 0d.	11s. 0d.	12s. 0d.
Gravy ditto	4s. 0d.	6s. 0d.	7s. 0d.

RIPPON and BURTON, 12, Wells street, Oxford street. Established 1830. Catalogues gratis.

COMPOSITIONS FOR WRITING WITH STEEL PENS.

STEPHENS' WRITING FLUIDS.

These Compositions, which have so remarkably extended the use of Steel Pens, are brought to very great perfection, being more easy to write with, more durable, and in every respect preferable to the ordinary ink. In warm climates they have become essential.

They consist of a Blue Fluid, changing to an intense Black colour.

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A superior Black Ink of the common character, but more fluid.

A brilliant Carmine Red, for Contrast writing.

A Carbonaceous Record Ink, unchangeable by any chemical agent.

Also a new kind of Marking Ink for Linen; and Ink-holders adapted for preserving Ink from Evaporation and Dust.

Bottles at 3d. each, convenient for writing from, are prepared, which may enable those who may wish to try either of these articles to do so at a small expense.

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The unchangeable blue fluids are patent articles; the public are therefore cautioned against imitations, which are infringements, to sell or use which is illegal.

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In addition to the subscribed Capital of £300,000, the Assured have the security of the Company's Income of upwards of £50,000 per annum, yearly increasing, and an accumulating Assurance Fund invested in government and other available securities, of considerably larger amount than the estimated liabilities of the Company.

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ANNUAL PREMIUM TO ASSURE £100.

Age	For Five Years	For Seven Years	Term of Life
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
25	1 0 3	1 0 7	1 15 1
30	1 1 10	1 2 1	1 19 10
45	1 9 7	1 10 9	3 4 7
50	1 16 11	1 19 0	3 19 3
60	3 10 5	3 15 5	6 0 10

In Assurance for advances of money, as security for debts, or as a provision for a family, when the least present outlay is desirable, the varied and comprehensive tables of the Argus Office will be found to be particularly favourable to the Assured.

A Board of Directors, with the Medical Officers, attend Daily.

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ELASTIC ANKLE BOOTS.

J. SPARKS HALL begs respectfully to

inform Ladies and Gentlemen that his PATENT ELASTIC ANKLE BOOTS require neither lacing, buttoning, or tying; they can be put on or off in a moment, without trouble or loss of time. The annoyance of laces breaking, buttons coming off, and holes wearing out, suggested the improvement.

J. S. H. has for many years given his attention to the care of the feet, and he has been very successful in giving ease and comfort, solely by making boots and shoes a proper shape, and of the softest and best materials. His new boots are remarkably neat in appearance and make, while they afford an unusual degree of support to the ankles, adapt themselves to the form without pressure, and set well without creases. This invention has been considered so original and desirable that the Patentee has been careful to register it agreeably with the provisions of the Designs Copyright act, 2 Victoria, c. 17, and ladies and gentlemen are informed that J. SPARKS HALL has no other shop in London, except that at 308, Regent street, Langham place, opposite the Polytechnic Institution.

THE WAR IN CHINA.

HOWQUA'S AND MOWQUA'S CELEBRATED TEAS.

THE important consequences likely to

ensue to this Country from the warlike operations in the great Tea Mart of the world, have deeply occupied the minds of Broc sopf, How, and Co, who watch the events closely, with a view to do the utmost possible justice to their numerous connexions, as well as to maintain the eminent character which their Teas have acquired throughout Great Britain and Ireland. They have naturally been apprehensive that circumstances might arise to interfere with their supplies of the celebrated Teas which they import, but they have the satisfaction to announce that they have just received from Canton a very large consignment from Howqua, the celebrated Hong Merchant, of the Black Tea so well known as his mixture, as well as of the Mowqua's Small Leaf Gunpowder, which they are enabled to offer without any enhancement of price.

The HOWQUA'S MIXTURE of Forty rare black Teas is now sold at 6s. per lb., and the MOWQUA SMALL LEAF Gunpowder at 8s. 7d. per lb.

CAUTION.—The above Teas can only be had genuine in the original Chinese catty, half-catty, and quarter catty packages. A catty contains one pound and a third of a pound, being nearly 22 ounces English weight, and to prevent fraud and adulteration are secured with the seals of Howqua and Mowqua, Merchants, at Canton.

These Teas are so thoroughly established, that to enlarge on their merits is perfectly superfluous.

Sold by their Agents throughout the Country.

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A Board of Directors in attendance daily at two o'clock.

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Annual Premium payable during

Age.	First Five Years.	Second Five Years.	Third Five Years.	Fourth Five Years.	Remainder of Life.
£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
20	1 1 4	1 5 10	1 10 11	1 16 9	2 3 8
30	1 6 4	1 12 2	1 19 12	2 7 4	2 17 6
40	1 16 12	4 4 2	14 6 3	7 3 4	3 4 3
50	2 16 7	9 4 4	5 5 5	6 3 6	6 13 7

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